SADDLEBACK
EDUCATIONAL PUBLISHING

HIGH-INTEREST

READING COMPREHENSION

SKILLS & STRATEGIES

Mental Imaging

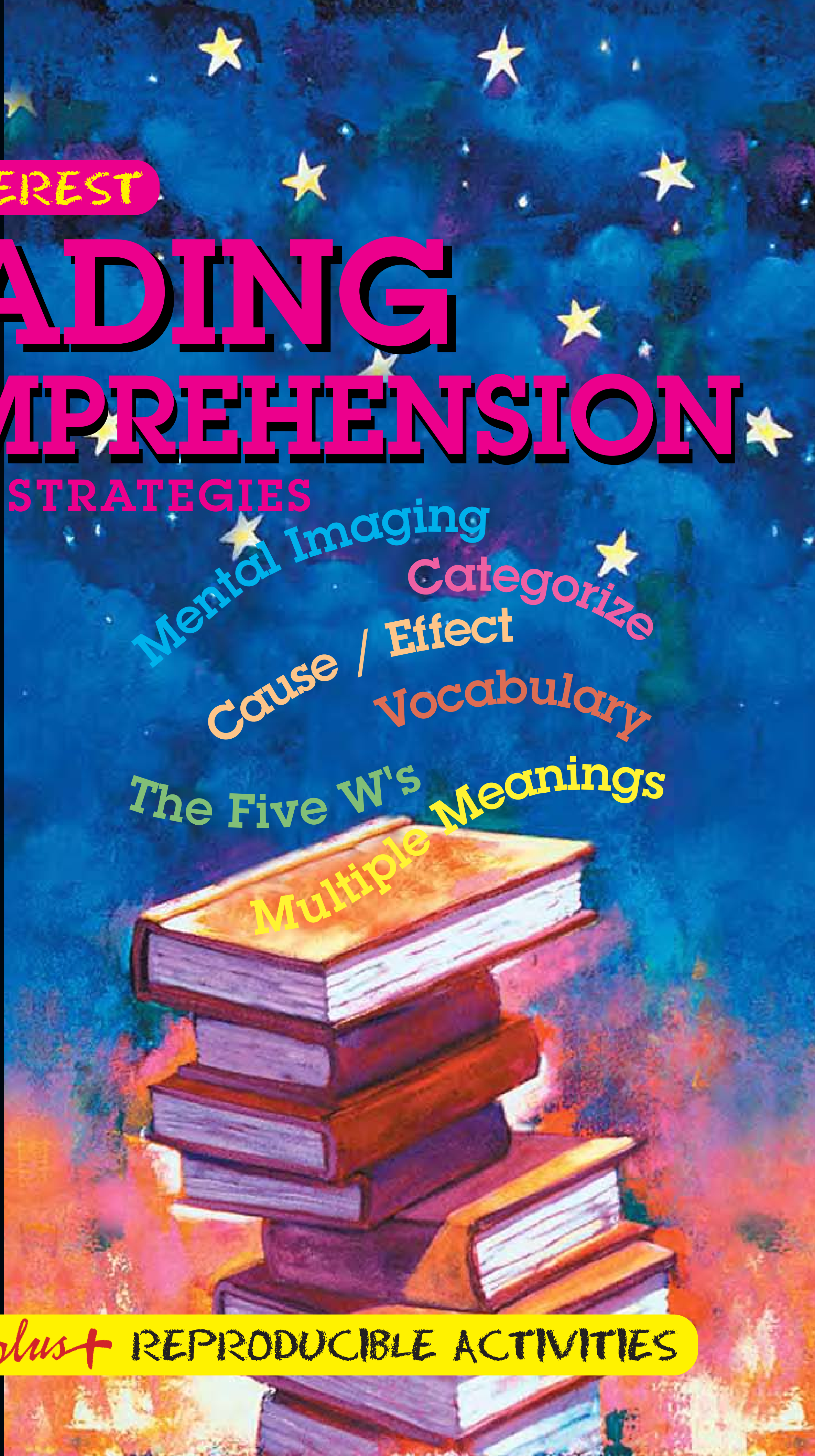
Categorize

Cause / Effect

Vocabulary

The Five W's

Multiple Meanings



LEVEL 4

100 plus+ REPRODUCIBLE ACTIVITIES

Reading Comprehension Skills and Strategies

Level 4

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Skills



Teacher pages just for you! Welcome to Reading Comprehension Skills and Strategies

About this Series

This unique series is specially created for you by Saddleback Educational Publishing, as an exciting supplement to reinforce and extend your classroom reading curriculum. *Reading Comprehension Skills and Strategies* can easily be integrated into basic reading curricula as additional reading lessons: as stand-alone strategy and skill instructional lessons; as across-the-curriculum lessons; or as activities for students with special projects, interests, or abilities.

This series is based on the most current research and thought concerning the teaching of reading comprehension. This series not only sharpens traditional reading comprehension skills, but it also reinforces the critical reading comprehension strategies that encourage your students to use prior knowledge, experiences, careful thought, and evaluation to help them decide how to practically apply what they know to all reading situations.

Traditional comprehension skills recently have been woven into the larger context of strategy instruction. Today, literacy instruction emphasizes learning strategies—those approaches that coordinate the various reading and writing skills and prior knowledge to make sense to the learner. Our goal in this series is to provide you and your students with the most up-to-date reading comprehension support, while teaching basic skills that can be tested and evaluated.

Reading Comprehension Strategies

- vocabulary knowledge
- activating prior knowledge
- pre-reading—previewing and predicting
- previewing and predicting text
- mental imaging
- self-questioning
- summarizing
- semantic mapping

Saddleback Educational Publishing promotes the development of the whole child with particular emphasis on combining solid skill instruction with creativity and imagination. This series gives your students a variety of opportunities to apply reading comprehension strategies as they read, while reinforcing basic reading comprehension skills. In addition, we designed this series to help you make an easy transition between levels (grades 3, 4, and 5) in order to reinforce or enhance needed skill development for individual students.

About this Book

Reading Comprehension Skills and Strategies is designed to reinforce and extend the reading skills of your students. The fun, high-interest fiction and non-fiction selections will spark the interest of even your most reluctant reader. The book offers your students a variety of reading opportunities—reading for pleasure, reading to gather information, and reading to perform a task. A character on each page prompts the student to apply one of the strategies to the reading selection and includes a relevant comprehension skill activity.

Choosing Instructional Approaches

You can use the pages in this book for independent reinforcement or extension, whole group lessons, pairs, or small cooperative groups rotating through an established reading learning center. You may choose to place the activities in a center and reproduce the answer key for self-checking. To ensure the utmost flexibility, the process for managing this is left entirely up to you because you know what works best in your classroom.

Assessment

Assessment and evaluation of student understanding and ability is an ongoing process. A variety of methods and strategies should be used to ensure that the student is being assessed and evaluated in a fair and comprehensive manner. Always keep in mind that the assessment should take into consideration the opportunities the student had to learn the information, and practice the skills presented. The strategies for assessment are left for you to determine and are dependent on your students and your particular instructional plan. You will find a Scope and Sequence Chart at the back of this book to assist you as you develop your assessment plan.



Putting words in categories by their root words helps you to learn tons of words faster. What a deal!

Directions: *Look at each word. Then write it under the correct root word.*

minimal	visible	deformity	video
dictate	format	minor	invisible
reform	indicate	predict	diminish

min—little, small

____

____

____

dic, dict—say, speak

____

____

____

vis, vid—see

____

____

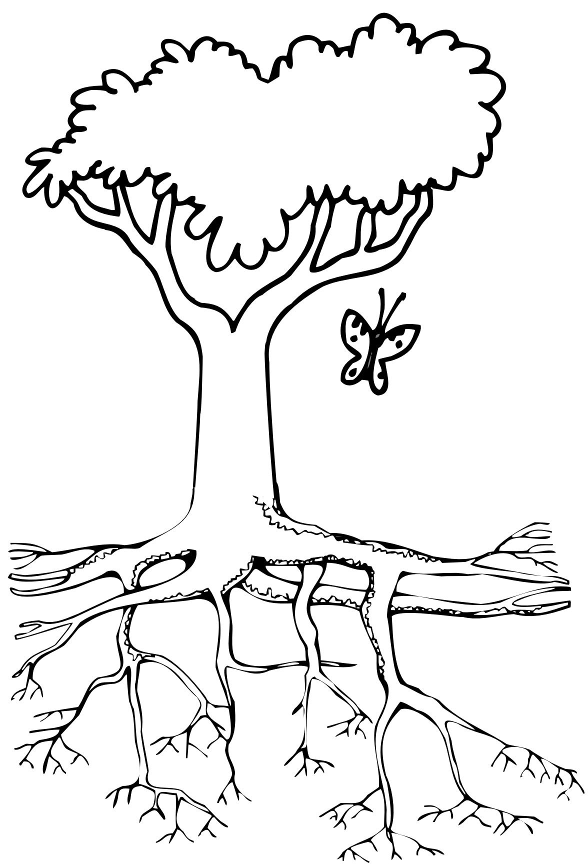
____

form—shape

____

____

____



Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________



Learning the meaning of a few basic root words will help you to figure out the meanings of bunches of words. Isn't that cool?

Directions: *Read the root words and their meanings. Then read the list of words. Write the letter of the root word that is part of each word.*

A. ***annu***—yearly	B. ***bio***—life	C. ***fract, frag, frai***—break
D. ***geo***—earth	E. ***uni***—one	F. ***brev***—short

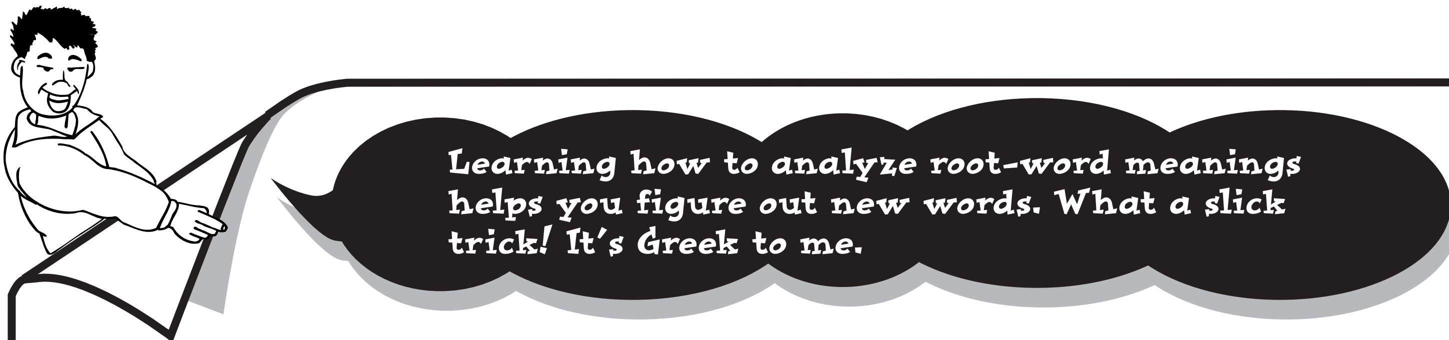
1. brevity _____
2. annuity _____
3. biology _____
4. abbreviate _____
5. fraction _____
6. frail _____
7. annual _____
8. geology _____
9. biography _____
10. united _____
11. fragment _____
12. bionics _____
13. fracture _____
14. disunity _____
15. biohazard _____
16. geography _____
17. nonbiodegradable _____
18. refract _____
19. biological _____
20. unicycle _____







Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Directions: *Many English words have Greek roots. Use the Greek roots to figure out the meaning of the words. Write the correct letter on the lines.*

GREEK ROOTS

- ***mono***—one
- ***phone***—sound, voice
- ***epi***—over
- ***gramma***—letter
- ***logos***—speech, words
- ***di, dia***—two
- ***graph***—write
- ***mega***—great
- ***lith***—stone

1. ____ A monogram is
   a. having only one eye.
   b. one elementary school.
   c. a design using initials.
   d. a seasonal storm.

2. ____ A monograph is
   a. something held firmly.
   b. a book or report on one topic.
   c. a picture about one thing.
   d. an airplane with one engine.

3. ____ Monologue means
   a. a speech by one person.
   b. a written record of events.
   c. an author's last word.
   d. a single tree.

4. ____ A dialogue is
   a. a president's speech
   b. words between two people.
   c. words that rhyme.
   d. an author's second book.

5. ____ An epilogue is
   a. a compound word.
   b. words at the end of a story or play.
   c. a quote from a book.
   d. an outer layer of skin.

6. ____ A megaphone is
   a. a cute voice.
   b. a device to make sounds louder.
   c. a large city.
   d. something that records voices.

7. ____ Megalith means
   a. a crystal rock.
   b. doing things in a big way.
   c. a huge stone.
   d. a layer of soil.

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



You know, this is not just a word game. It's a strategy to help you figure out word meanings.

Directions: *Most English words have roots in another language. Many of the words we use come from Latin, the language of the ancient Romans. Read the root word and its meaning. Then write a word to complete the phrase.*

remember

solve **clamor** **ferry**

legal **collection** **vacant**

ruptured **revolve** **location** **junction** **conduct**

Latin Root—Meaning	English Phrase
1. *fer*—to carry	______________ the cars across the river
2. *clam*—shout	a noisy ______________
3. *leg*—law	a ______________book
4. *rupt*—break	a ______________ blister
5. *mem*—recall	a time to ______________
6. *loc*—place	the ______________ of the store
7. *junct*—to join	the ______________ of the two roads
8. *solv*—explain	______________ the answer to the puzzle
9. *lect*—gather	a stamp ______________
10. *duct*—lead	to ______________ the tour
11. *vac*—empty	the ______________ house
12. *volv*—turn, roll	______________ around the Sun

Name: ______________ **Date:** ______________



What do you know about prefixes?

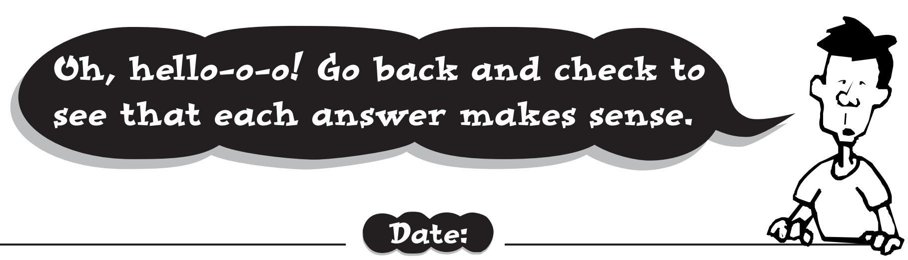
- ✔ A prefix is a group of letters that go in front of the word.
- ✔ A prefix changes the meaning of a word.
- ✔ Most of the time a prefix is not a word by itself, but not always.
- ✔ When you peel away the prefix, a base word that makes sense is left.

Directions: *Circle each prefix. Then write the base word.*

1. unfair ______________________
2. revisit ______________________
3. illegal ______________________
4. misname ______________________
5. disobey ______________________
6. relearn ______________________
7. indoors ______________________
8. overdose ______________________
9. unhappy ______________________
10. inactive ______________________
11. unthread ______________________
12. replay ______________________
13. impolite ______________________
14. disappear ______________________
15. pretest ______________________
16. uncover ______________________
17. midair ______________________
18. supercharge ______________________
19. nonvoter ______________________
20. intertwine ______________________

The prefix **de** *means to make less or remove. The prefix* **re** *means again or back. Change the meaning of the word in bold print by adding the prefix* **re** *or* **de***. Write the word on the line.*

21. Before taking off, the plane had to be **iced**. ______________________
22. The table is old so it needs to be **painted**. ______________________
23. It was such a wonderful day I wish I could **live** it. ______________________
24. I need to **place** the stone that is missing from my ring. ______________________

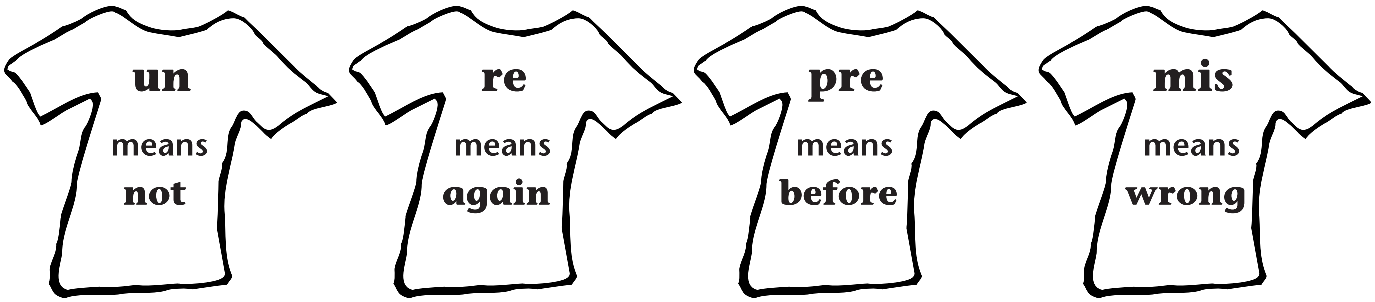


Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________________

Remember, the strategy is to peel—peel away the prefix, that is. Then check to see that the base word makes sense.

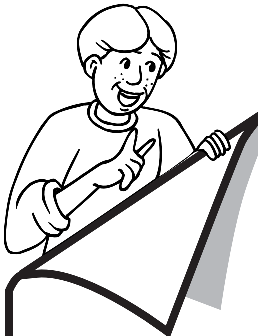


Directions: *Have you read* Superfudge *by Judy Blume (E. P. Dutton, 1980)? This very funny story about Peter Hatcher and his little brother Superfudge is a book that will tickle your funny bone. Read each sentence and circle the word with the prefix. Then write the meaning of the word on the line.*



1. Peter thinks his brother Fudge is a preschool pain in the neck. ______________________
2. Peter is unexcited when he finds out his mom is having another baby. ______________________
3. Peter is even more unhappy when he finds out his family is moving to a quiet town in New Jersey. ______________________
4. When Fudge kicks the kindergarten teacher, the principal is unamused. ______________________
5. Peter discovers that getting Fudge a bird that repeats everything you say is definitely a mismatch. ______________________
6. Fudge's friend, Daniel, is about as untamed as he is. ______________________
7. Peter feels like his life is full of even more misfortune when his two best friends become friends. ______________________
8. Fudge accuses the school nurse of misapplying peroxide to cuts because she doesn't blow on it to dry it. ______________________
9. When Fudge takes off but reappears one Saturday, Peter thinks his little brother acted stupidly. ______________________
10. Peter's dad is rehired at his old job, and the family gets ready to move back to the city. ______________________
11. Peter can't wait to relive his old life in New York, or Nu Yuck as his baby sister calls it. ______________________

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________________



Amazing—adding a suffix to the end of a word or root changes its meaning. Give it a try!

Directions: *Circle the suffix that correctly completes each word or root. Then write it on the line to complete the word. Finally, reread the set of sentences to make sure everything makes sense.*

1. Maurice Klutz loves to travel and tour the world. You would call him a world-class tour_________.

or	ist	er

2. Maurice is most concerned about getting to his travel destinations on time. You always see him speed__________ through the airports.

ing	ly	able

3. On one of his trips, he toured a fine museum and bumped into a very rare, expensive, and break____________ vase. You can imagine his embarrass___________.

ly	able	ish
ly	ful	ment

4. A quick-thinking security guard saw the accident and caught the vase before it hit the floor. You know Maurice was more than grate________ for the security guard's quick actions.

ful	ive	ery

5. After the vase mishap, Maurice has decided to slow down a bit. He figures if he looks at the world with a little more attention to detail and slow____ examines things and people around him, he'll find much more enjoy___________in his travels.

ist	ive	ly
ery	ment	able

6. Oh, by the way, the security guard and Maurice Klutz became great friends. So now when Maurice travels he takes along his new pal. You can imagine their trips together are a very posit________ experience.

ive	ly	ery



Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________

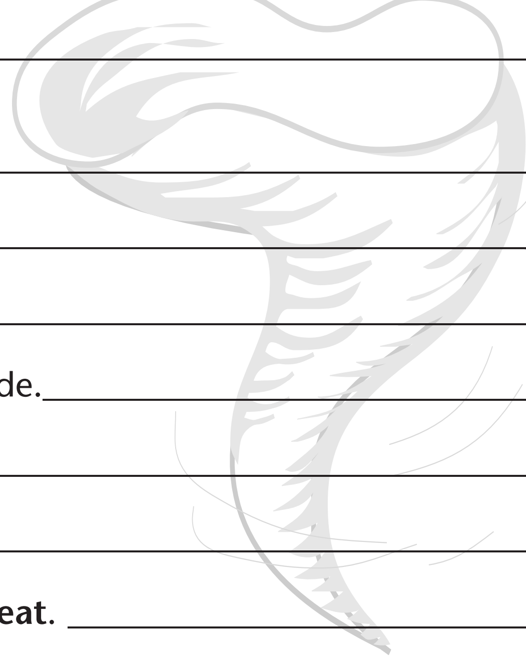


It's really fun to change the meaning of words by adding different suffixes. Have fun!

Directions: *Add a suffix to each word in bold print. Write the new word on the line. You can use each suffix more than once.*

Suffixes

er—more in degree
en—to make or become
ful—full of
ous—having the quality of
est—the most
ly—in that manner
ive—having the quality of, given to
less—without



1. A tornado is a violent and **destruct** wind. ______________________________
2. It's hard to imagine that a tornado can have speeds of 300 miles an hour or **strong**. ______________________________
3. You can spot a tornado by looking for an **impress** funnel-shaped cloud. ______________________________
4. The sky may **black** before a tornado. ______________________________
5. Tornadoes can be extremely **danger**. ______________________________
6. Buildings hit by tornadoes may **complete** explode.______________________________
7. People and animals can be **help** in a tornado. ______________________________
8. They must find underground shelter **quick**. ______________________________
9. The number of tornadoes each year can vary **great**. ______________________________
10. In the U.S. tornadoes most **frequent** occur in the spring. ______________________________

Hey you! Check each sentence to see that your new word makes sense when you reread the sentence.



Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________



For a clear understanding of a situation, try to visualize the scene in your mind.

Directions: *For each situation below, draw a brief cartoon. Then write a couple of sentences describing the action. Remember to use proper punctuation marks.*

1. Draw a dentist working on a patient's mouth.
   What would the dentist say to the patient?



2. Draw a captain and his crew during a storm.
   What would the captain say to his crew?

3. Draw a chef cooking a special meal.
   What would a chef say to describe his meal?

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Pay attention to punctuation marks such as a comma (,) or a dash (—). Clues to the meaning of an unknown word may come right after them.

Directions: *Read about geckos. Then write the correct meaning of the words.*

A gecko is a small, harmless lizard found mainly in the tropics—hot and humid regions. This delightful creature has several special attributes, or features, that make it interesting to study. There are 800 species, or kinds, of geckos. Many species are vividly, that is, brightly colored, and some can even change color. The gecko is the only lizard that makes a call—noise like hissing, clicking or barking. Most geckos have no eyelids. Because of that, they must lick their big eyes to keep them clean and moist. If you pick up a gecko by its tail, the tail may break off so it can easily escape. Later its tail will regenerate—a new one will regrow in its place. Check out their feet. The bottoms of their broad toes are covered with flaps of skin that contain thousands of little bristles, or short, stiff hairs. These bristles enable, or make it possible, for the gecko to cling to almost any kind of surface, even windowpanes. A gecko likes to live anywhere it can find insects. People who live in places like Hawaii are used to the gecko making itself a guest inside their homes.



1. Vividly means the same as ______________________________.
2. Species means ____.
3. An attribute is a ______________________________.
4. Bristles are ____.
5. A call is a ____.
6. To regenerate means to ______________________________.
7. Tropics are ____.
8. Enable means to ____.

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________



Hey, you need to know this trick. Using context is like being a detective. You guess the meaning of unknown words by looking at other words around them.

Directions: *Use context clues to figure out the correct meaning of the underlined word. Then circle the letter next to the correct meaning of the word.*

December 5. It's time to get on the plane and depart for St. Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands. We were jostled by the big crowd in the boarding area.

1. depart	a. change	b. enjoy	c. come	d. leave
2. jostled	a. fastened	b. curled	c. pushed	d. mixed

December 8. Yum! After getting up, we ate banana pancakes on the veranda outside our room. Then we quickly bounded down to the beach to collect shells and other washed-up sea treasures.

3. veranda	a. decision	b. porch	c. planet	d. sidewalk
4. bounded	a. creeped	b. tied	c. rushed	d. dug

December 11. Today was spent lounging in beach hammocks and reading books. For dinner we gobbled up conch fritters at the hotel restaurant. Yum again! Then we moved over to the adjoining game room to play checkers.

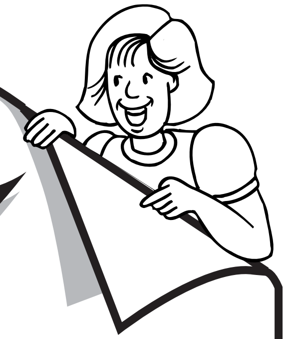
5. lounging	a. relaxing	b. snoring	c. falling	d. cleaning
6. adjoining	a. basement	b. attached	c. upper	d. separate

December 14. This was our last day so we were off to Coral World, an underwater observatory. As we walked through this awesome ocean museum, we got close-up views of marine and coral life.

7. observatory	a. building	b. telescope	c. tower	d. shore
8. marine	a. swamp	b. sea	c. soldier	d. boat



Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Be smart! If you read something and it doesn't make sense, read it again. Look for clues in the sentence to help you.

Directions: *Read the sentence. Now study it carefully to figure out the meaning of the word or words in italics. Then write what the word or words mean.*

1. Monday. Poor me! Here I sit in the *bog*. It's wet here, and the soil is so poor that I can't get enough minerals from it.

____

____

2. Tuesday. Boy, I sure could use a juicy bug for a meal today. I'm a *carnivorous plant* so that's the way I get extra nutrients.

____

____

3. Wednesday. Well, nothing is happening so I might as well check out my special *hinged* leaves that can open and shut. They are two blade-like halves joined at one side to form a trap. Looking good!

____

____

4. Thursday. Man, I am starved. I'll just *exude* some sweet-smelling fluids onto my leaves. The fluids will ooze out all over the leaves. Some bug is sure to find that tempting!

____

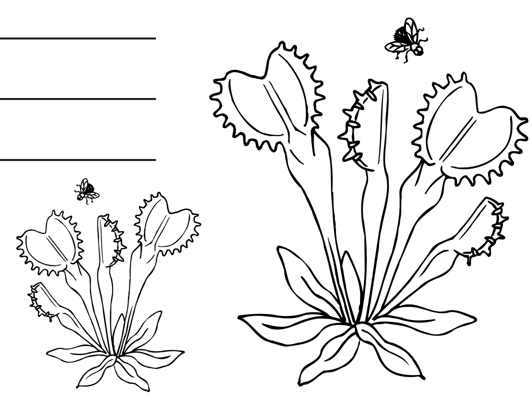
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5. Friday. Gottcha! A little bug just landed on my leaf trap, and I snapped it shut around the tasty *prey*. This insect is now my food and cannot escape.

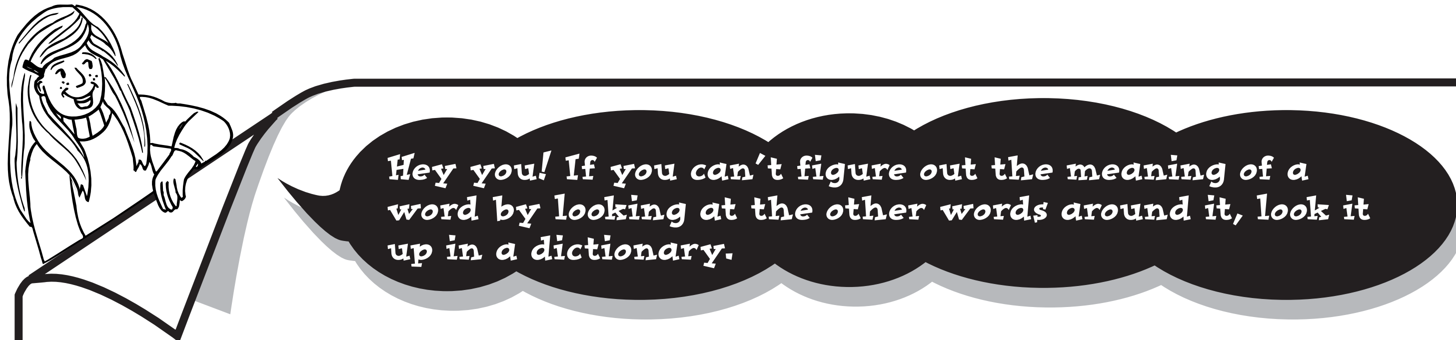
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Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ______________________________



Directions: *Decide the correct meaning of the underlined word. Write it on the lines on the leaf.*

1. When you pick a leaf from a <u>plant</u>, you are holding something valuable.
   a. a building   b. a living, growing thing

2. Horses, sheep, and cattle <u>graze</u> on leaves for nourishment.
   a. touch gently   b. feed

3. People also <u>count</u> on leaves for healthy eating.
   a. depend on   b. name numbers

4. Cabbage, lettuce and spinach are leaves that have <u>great</u> nutrients.
   a. important   b. large

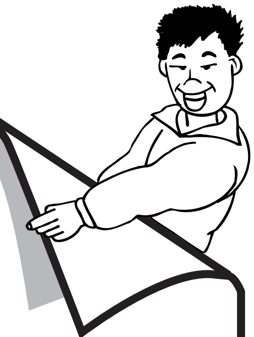
5. In <u>addition</u> to being a food source, leaves provide many useful products.
   a. combining two numbers   b. as well as

6. Oil from the leaves of some plants is used to <u>produce</u> perfumes and soaps.
   a. make   b. agricultural products

7. You <u>season</u> your food with the leaves from thyme, parsley, and sage.
   a. flavor   b. special part of the year

8. Hair dye is another example of a <u>good</u> that comes from the leaves.
   a. kind, honest   b. something of economic value

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



I have an idea! Use clues from around a word to help you figure out its meaning.

Directions: *Write 1 by the meaning of the word as it is used in the story. Write 2 by another meaning for the word.*

One day a thirsty crow was flying in rings above a roadside when she was lucky enough to spot a pitcher in the middle of the road. She landed and hopped over to it quickly. She dipped her beak into the narrow neck of the pitcher expecting a cool drink, but no luck. There was only a little water at the very bottom of the pitcher and no way to get at it. She thought hard.

"I could fly to town and find a straw so I could suck out the water," she thought. "No. By the time I get back here, some other crow will surely claim my find."

Finally she had an idea. She picked up little pebbles and dropped them one by one into the pitcher. After a while, the water rose higher and higher as the pebbles filled the bottom of the pitcher. When the water got close to the top, she stuck in her beak and sipped a long, cool drink.



Moral: Necessity is the mother of invention

—Aesop

1. crow
   ____ a. a loud sharp cry
   ____ b. a large black bird

2. rings
   ____ a. circles
   ____ b. to make the sound of a bell

3. pitcher
   ____ a. a container with a handle
   ____ b. a baseball player

4. spot
   ____ a. to see
   ____ b. a mark or stain

5. little
   ____ a. a short time or distance
   ____ b. a small amount

6. straw
   ____ a. a tube for sipping
   ____ b. hay

7. back
   ____ a. to return
   ____ b. behind your chest

8. rose
   ____ a. moved upward
   ____ b. a flower

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________

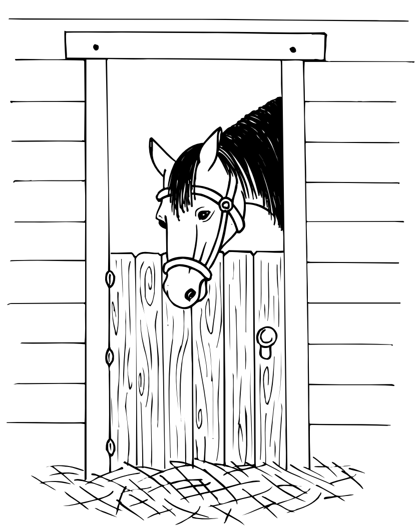


Words, words, and more words. Many words have more than one meaning, so they can be used in different ways.

Directions: *Read all the meanings and predict the words before you do the activity. Write the letters to show two meanings for each word.*

Meanings

a. a place to play
b. a cube or piece
c. to stop and leave
d. a place in a barn
e. a plot of ground
f. put in the way of
g. a notice to pay
h. a fight
i. a beak
j. to hold off
k. a color
l. plants
m. a place to sleep
n. to cut
o. being sad
p. worn or ragged



Words with More Than One Meaning

1. block	☐	☐
2. park	☐	☐
3. fray	☐	☐
4. bill	☐	☐
5. blue	☐	☐
6. crop	☐	☐
7. bed	☐	☐
8. stall	☐	☐

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________________

Hey, whiz kid. Remember that categorizing information helps to get it into your brain's memory board.



Directions: *These signal clues may tell you that something is about to happen or emphasize something important. Here are some signal words and phrases. Write them under the correct heading.*



• in addition	• most of all	• near	• across
• little by little	• more	• first	• again
• a key point	• beyond	• during	• since
• furthermore	• above all	• next to	• a major factor

Where — a place

1. ______________________________
2. ______________________________
3. ______________________________
4. ______________________________

Sequence — time and order

1. ______________________________
2. ______________________________
3. ______________________________
4. ______________________________

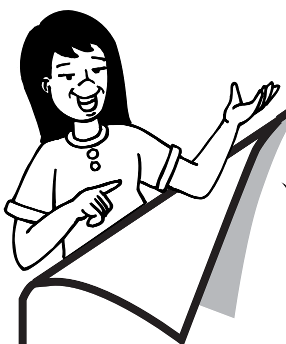
Continuation — more ideas coming

1. ______________________________
2. ______________________________
3. ______________________________
4. ______________________________

Importance — be sure to note this

1. ______________________________
2. ______________________________
3. ______________________________
4. ______________________________

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________



Hold it! Before you start this job, think out loud and get your brain in gear. Say signal words that have to do with time or order.

Directions: *Read how Amy plans and writes her first report. Look for a word or a phrase that gives you a signal about the order in which she does things or the time at which she does things. Circle the word or the phrase and then write each of them on the lines.*

Immediately after getting this assignment, Amy began to think. First, she had to choose a topic. Finally, she decided to write her report about Navajo Indians. Her teacher told her that after she picked a topic, the next step was to write a list of questions she wanted her report to answer. Little by little, Amy came up with five questions. That felt like a good start. Once that was done, she had to decide where to find the information she needed. She read three books and one magazine article about Navajo Indians. While she did that, she wrote careful notes on small cards. Then came the real work—making an outline. With her teacher's help, she organized her information into an A, B, C framework. After writing her rough draft, Amy fixed a few mistakes and made a few changes to her report. She typed her final report on the computer, printed it out, and handed it in on time. Whew! That wasn't so bad after all.



1. ______________________
2. ______________________
3. ______________________
4. ______________________
5. ______________________
6. ______________________
7. ______________________
8. ______________________
9. ______________________
10. ______________________
11. ______________________
12. ______________________
13. ______________________

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Of course, you don't know this vocabulary. That's why dictionaries were invented. Use one. Go for it!

Directions: *Read each sentence. Look up the word in bold print in a dictionary. Then write a few words to define the word. Now decide if the sentence is true or false. Write T (True) or F (False).*

Example:
__T__ A rainy day might make you **mope**. ____act gloomy____



____ 1. You have to obey a judge's **mandate**. ____________________

____ 2. The best place to find an **ermine** is in the garage. ____________________

____ 3. You usually feel **euphoric** after flunking a test. ____________________

____ 4. A **tarmac** is worn on the head. ____________________

____ 5. A robber is a **culprit**. ____________________

____ 6. You can enjoy eating a big, juicy **gherkin**. ____________________

____ 7. **Intricate** directions may be hard to follow. ____________________

____ 8. **Perchance** you will have a car someday. ____________________

____ 9. A **gibbon** is as small as a mouse. ____________________

____ 10. You might hear a **carillon** at a church. ____________________

____ 11. You could say a kindergartner is a **neophyte**. ____________________

____ 12. It is **improbable** that your teacher will call on you. ____________________

____ 13. A **cowling** is a bird that is found on farms. ____________________

____ 14. You can **rectify** a mistake. ____________________

____ 15. A minister can be said to have **virtue**. ____________________

Name: ____________________ **Date:** ____________________



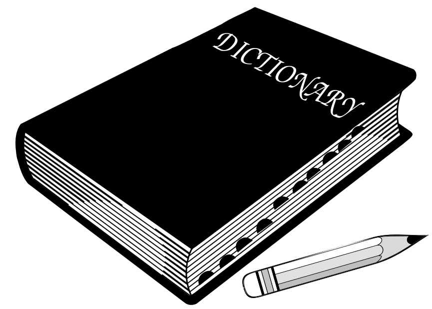
Good readers look up new words they don't know, so get a grip on your dictionary often.

Directions: *Read each sentence. Using the words around the word that is in bold print, predict its meaning. Write your prediction. Then look up the word in a dictionary and write the actual definition that applies to the word.*

Example

The horse's **nares** flared open when it hit the cold morning air.

Prediction ___lips___ Definition ___nostrils___



1. Jake came to the costume party **incognito**.

   Prediction____________________ Definition____________________

2. The creepy old house had all the signs of being filled with **revenants.**

   Prediction____________________ Definition____________________

3. The juggler amused us with his **waggish** ways.

   Prediction____________________ Definition____________________

4. My sister says I act like a **glutton** at the dinner table.

   Prediction____________________ Definition____________________

5. As we opened the door to the movie theater, we heard lots of **guffaws**.

   Prediction____________________ Definition____________________

6. The used car dealer **bamboozled** us, and we ended up with a bad car.

   Prediction____________________ Definition____________________

7. The **punctilious** surgeon performed the heart surgery on the ill woman.

   Prediction____________________ Definition____________________

8. We had tea and **crumpets** at the English cottage house.

   Prediction____________________ Definition____________________

9. When I couldn't answer the teacher's question, I became **flustered.**

   Prediction____________________ Definition____________________

10. Dad said that our plan to build a plastic tree house was a little **dubious**.

    Prediction____________________ Definition____________________

Name: ____________________ **Date:** ____________________



As you read each word in the glossary, make a picture in your mind.

Directions: *Read the glossary page. Use it to answer the questions.*

GLOSSARY

amphibian—An animal that lives in the water during its early life and then on land as an adult. Frogs, toads, and salamanders are amphibians.

aquatic—Living in water.

cold-blooded—An animal whose blood changes temperature with the temperature of the air. Amphibians are cold-blooded.

clutch—A group of eggs.

gills—Organs used to breathe under water.

herpetologist—A person who studies amphibians and/or reptiles.

hibernate—To spend the winter in a sleep-like state.

nocturnal—Active at night.

salamander—An animal that looks like a small lizard. It lives in or near fresh water.

scale—A flat structure covering the bodies of some amphibians and reptiles.

tubercles—Warts or bumps on the skin.

webbing—The thin skin that connects the toes of some frogs and toads.



1. List two facts about amphibians. ______________________
2. Where might you find tubercles? ______________________
3. If a frog is nocturnal, when would it probably hunt for food? ______________________
4. What is one feature of a frog's foot? ______________________
5. Where would you go to find a salamander? ______________________
6. What would happen to a toad's body temperature in cold weather? ______________________
7. Suppose you could hibernate. What would you do? ______________________
8. A group of eggs is called a ______________________
9. Would you like to be a herpetologist? Why or why not? ______________________

 ____
10. What do you think is a good name for the book from which this glossary came? ______________________

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________________



Check yourself by rereading the sentences after you correct them. This is self-questioning. Make sense?

Directions: *Use the glossary to correct the sentences. Draw a line through the word or words in each sentence that are incorrect. Write the correct word or words on the line.*

Glossary of Word Usage

Help for problem words or phrases

a, an—Use ***a*** before words that start with a consonant. Use ***an*** before words that begin with a vowel.

a lot—***A lot*** is always two words. ***Alot*** is a common spelling mistake.

can, may—***Can*** means ability. ***May*** means permission.

may be, maybe—***May be*** is a verb phrase. ***Maybe*** is an adverb meaning perhaps.

might of—Use ***might have.***

nowheres—Use ***nowhere***.

off of—***Of*** is unnecessary. Omit it.

pretty—This is an overworked word. Pick a synonym.

suspose to, use to—Add ***-d*** to the ends of the words-***supposed, used***.

1. Teachers have heard alot of homework excuses, and here are a few silly ones. ____________________
2. "I have an solar calculator, and it was cloudy last night." ____________
3. "May be I am allergic to pencils and pens." ____________
4. "I'm pretty sure I did my homework, but maybe I dreamed it." ____________
5. "I was forced to eat it because it might of fallen into enemy hands." ____________
6. "I put it on the hood of the car, and now it's nowheres to be found." ____________
7. "My doctor says that I am not suppose to do anything that makes me sick." ____________________
8. " Oh, I may always do it tomorrow." ____________

Name: ____________ **Date:** ____________



Read and work with a partner. It's awesome how thinking out loud helps you become a better reader!

Directions: *First, read each set of sentences all the way through without stopping. Then, fill in the missing word. Last, underline the word or words that provide clues about the missing word. Answers may vary.*

1. Well, I was hoping to have a good _______________________ year. It would be great to have a year of education in which things went smoothly.
2. However, it looks as if this year Miss Madison's class is going to be strange and _______________________ like all the others. Something unusual always seems to happen.
3. During the first week of school, my mom mentioned that she knew someone with the same surname as my teacher. She said that she had gone to high school with a girl whose _______________________ name was Madison.
4. I just let that go in one ear and out the _______________________. It's a big world and many people have the same name.
5. However, several days later Mom came to school to pick me up for a _______________________ appointment. I needed to get my teeth cleaned.
6. That's when Mom came face-to-face with Miss Madison. They did know each other after all! As they hugged and laughed, I just wanted to _______________________. It was so embarrassing!
7. Oh, my gosh, I can't believe my mom and my teacher were high school buddies. Well, it could be worse. At least they were _______________________ and not enemies.



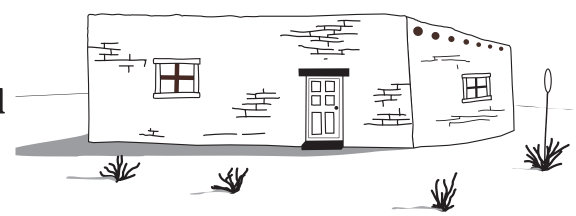
Name: _______________________ **Date:** _______________________



Is this tricky? Not if you use what you know and keep your eyes peeled for clues like repeating words, familiar expressions, synonyms, or antonyms.

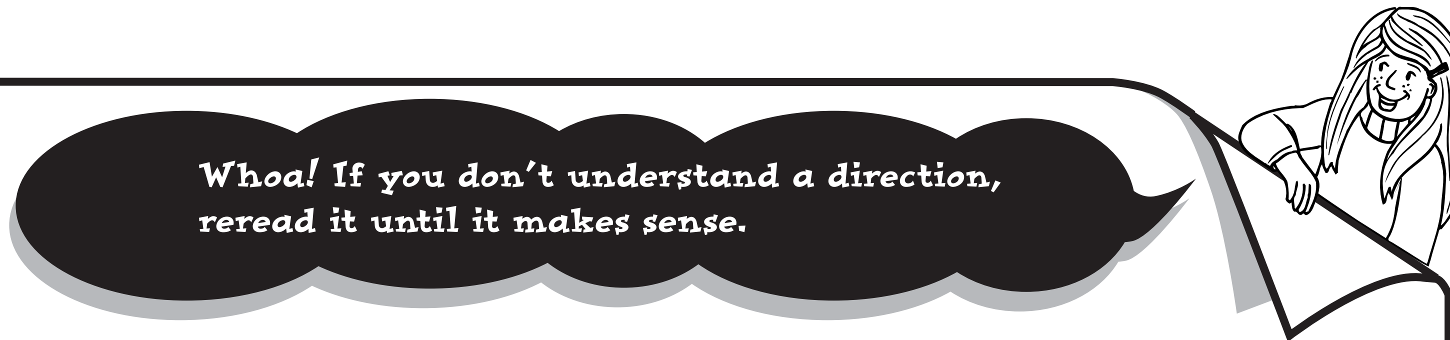
Directions: *Read the paragraph all the way through without stopping. Then on the lines at the bottom of the page, write the missing words. Last, write the word or words in the paragraph that provide clues about each missing word.*

Do you know anything about adobe? Adobe is the Spanish word for a clay brick that is dried by the sun. It is also the word for the soil from which the clay __1.__ is made. Adobe soils can be found in many parts of the western __2.__. In fact, this kind of soil covers many thousands of square miles of our country. Yes. Adobe soil is great for __3.__ because it is very fertile soil and produces plentiful crops. Adobe can be easily molded when it is moist, but when it is __4.__ it is extremely hard. For that reason, adobe has been used for thousands of years to make bricks for __5.__. For example, the Pueblo Indians of the southwest used adobe bricks to build their dwellings. To make the bricks, straw is mixed into the moist clay soil. Then the bricks are molded and dried in the sun for 7 to 14 days. You can imagine that after baking in the __6.__ for that long the bricks are as hard as __7.__. Not only have adobe bricks been used in the past for building homes, but in some parts of the United States and Mexico, they continue to be used in the __8.__. Now you know something about adobe.



Missing Word	Clue Word or Words
1. ____________________	______________________________
2. ____________________	______________________________
3. ____________________	______________________________
4. ____________________	______________________________
5. ____________________	______________________________
6. ____________________	______________________________
7. ____________________	______________________________
8. ____________________	______________________________

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ______________



Directions: *Follow the directions. Check (✔) each direction as you do it.*



- ❑ Color the Pacific Coast States region blue.
- ❑ Color the New England region red.
- ❑ Color the Rocky Mountain States region brown.
- ❑ Color the Southwestern States region orange.
- ❑ Color the Southern States region green.
- ❑ Color the Midwestern States region purple.
- ❑ Color the Middle Atlantic States region yellow.
- ❑ Draw a star on the state in which you were born.
- ❑ Put a checkmark on the state in which you live.
- ❑ Put a blue circle on the northernmost New England state.

N W E S

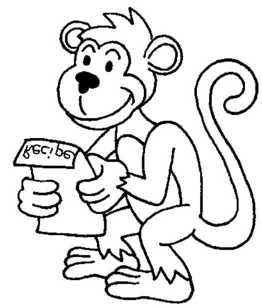
Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Don't go nuts! Just read the whole recipe before you start.

Directions: *Read the recipe, then answer the questions.*

Monkey's Delight



Ingredients

- 3 bananas
- Lemon juice
- Cinnamon
- 3 tablespoons quick-cooking rolled oats
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons chopped nuts
- 2 tablespoons margarine

Directions

1. Cut bananas into 1/4-inch slices.
2. Lay them in a pie plate.
3. Brush the slices with lemon juice.
4. Sprinkle them with cinnamon.
5. Mix in a bowl: rolled oats, brown sugar, nuts.
6. With a fork, mix in margarine until the mix is crumbly.
7. Sprinkle crumb mix over the bananas.
8. Bake in a 400 degree oven for 12 to 15 minutes.
9. Serve warm.

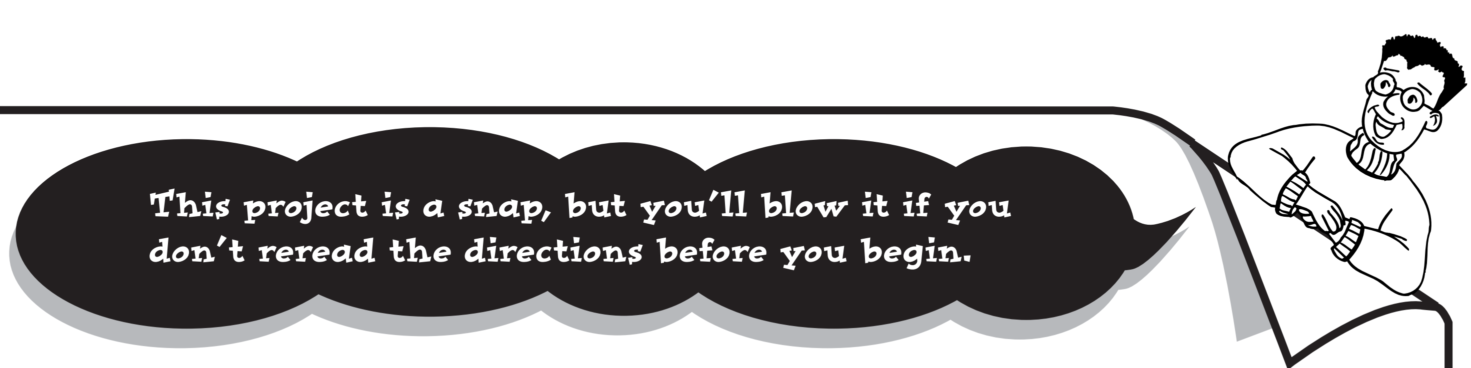
1. How many servings does this recipe make? ______________________
2. What do you do first? ______________________
3. What is the third step? ______________________
4. What kind of fruits do you need to buy for this recipe? ______________________
5. What do you need to cut the bananas? ______________________
6. How do you get lemon juice? ______________________
7. What would happen if you left out the bananas? ______________________

____
8. What could you add to make this dessert more yummy? ______________________
9. Yikes! You are allergic to nuts. What can you do to still enjoy this dessert? ______________________

____
10. What would you need to do if you wanted to serve this dessert to 10 hungry people or chimps? ______________________

____

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________________



Directions: *Follow the directions below.*

A wreath is a circular band of flowers or leaves. The word wreath comes from the Old English word, writha, or band. Most wreaths are made from plants, but you can make them from stuff you find. Collect a variety of natural, manufactured, or recycled objects to make an unusual wreath.



You Need

- Thick cardboard (18" x18")
- Found objects
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Craft glue

You Do

1. Trace or draw a large circle on the cardboard.
2. Cut it out.
3. Trace or draw a smaller circle in the center of the big circle
4. Cut it out.
5. Glue the objects to the cardboard in an interesting pattern. Cover the whole cardboard.
6. Let the wreath dry completely.
7. Hang it on a door.

Answer the questions.

1. What is another word for a wreath? ______________________
2. How many items do you need to make this art project? ______________________
3. What is a found object? ______________________
4. What is the third step in this project? ______________________
5. What do you do last? ______________________
6. What could you use instead of scissors to cut the cardboard? ______________________
7. What clues in the directions make you think this project will take more than one day to finish? ______________________
8. What is the function of the glue? ______________________
9. Where else could you hang a wreath besides on a door? ______________________
10. What could you add to the wreath to make it more snazzy? ______________________

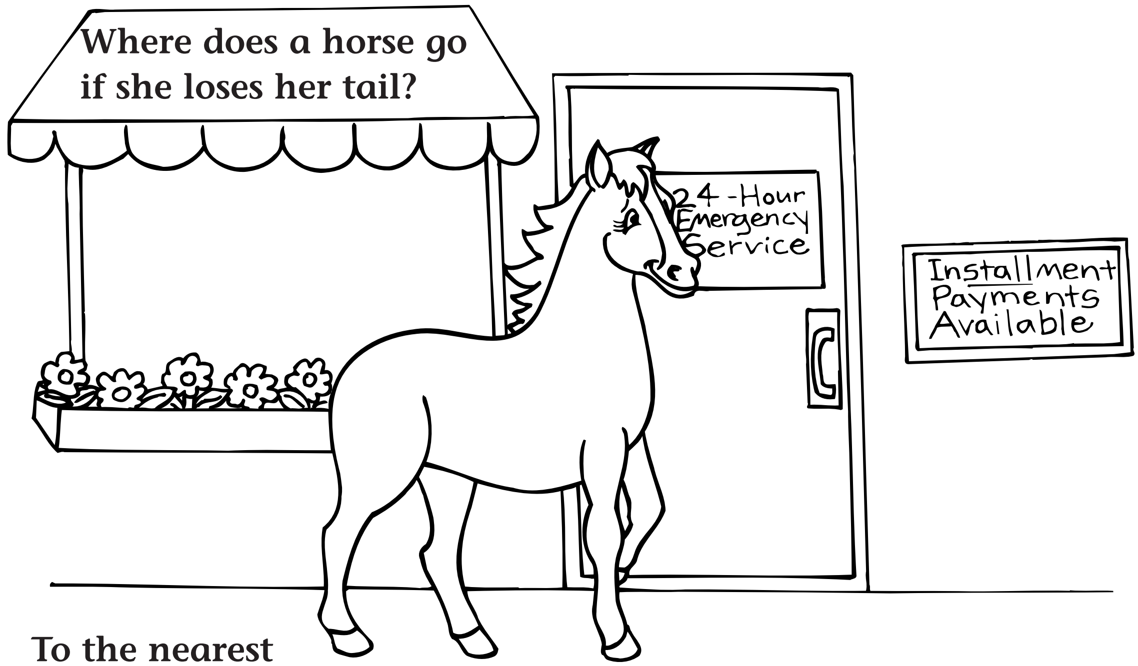
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Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________________



Whoa! Following directions and a coded message... cool! Use all that you know to trot through this activity.

Directions: *Follow the directions to solve the riddle. Check (✔) off each direction as you do it and you won't lose track of which ones you did. Finally use a dictionary to help you.*



To the nearest

____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____   ____ ____ ____ ____ ____
1 2 3 4 5 6   7 8 9 10 11

- ❑ a. If numerous means many, then write the letter t in spaces 3 and 8.
- ❑ b. If height means how tall something is, then write an r in spaces 1 and 10.
- ❑ c. If support means to tear down, then write an f in space 5
- ❑ d. If million means the number 1,000, then write an m in space 7.
- ❑ e. If tame means the opposite of wild, then write an e in spaces 2 and 11.
- ❑ f. If dangerous means safe, then write a g in space 6.
- ❑ g. If intelligent means smart, then write an a in space 4.
- ❑ h. If pleasant means wicked, then write a j in space 9.
- ❑ i. If mold means to shape, then write an i in space 5.
- ❑ j. If figures can mean the same as shapes, then write an s in space 7.
- ❑ k. If massive means huge, write an l in space 6.
- ❑ l. If snarl means growl, write an o in space 9.

Name: ____________________ **Date:** ____________

You get a double dose of learning when you classify words and learn about the topic. What a deal!



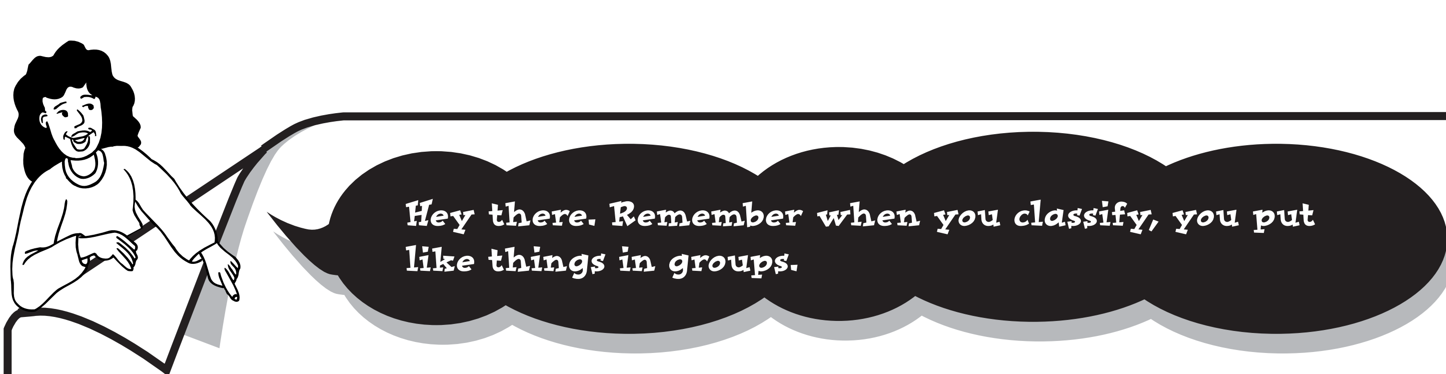
Directions: *Read the words. Then write them on the correct spot on the chart.*

Pacific	water	Arctic	marine mammals
energy	fish	mountains	Atlantic
Indian	plants	tides	volcanoes
	food	minerals	currents
	Antarctic	waves	ridges
	plains	trenches	waves
		metals	

Names	Ocean Life	Natural Resources
________	________	________
________	________	________
________	________	________
________	________	________
________	________	________

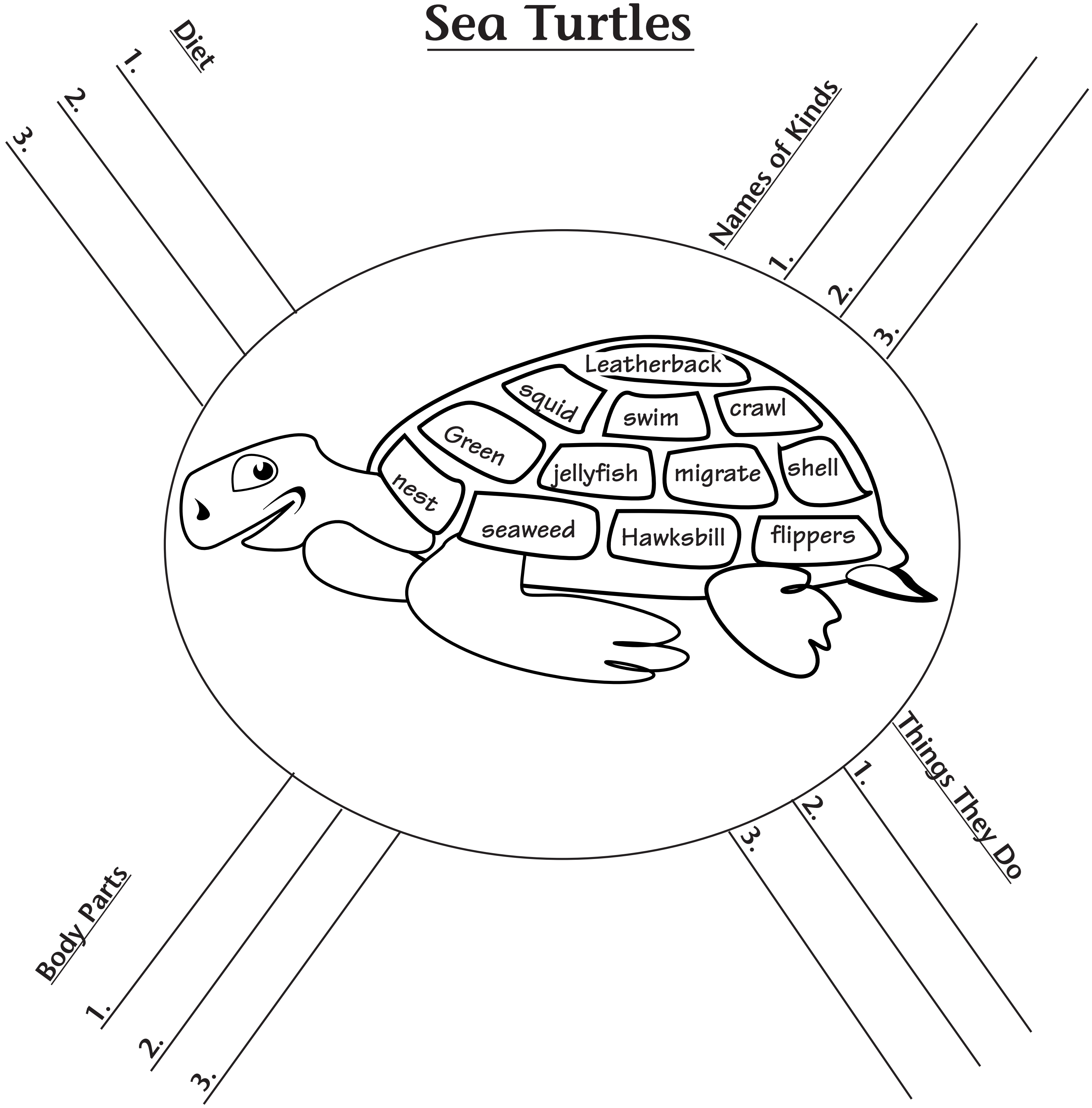
Water Movement	Geography of the Ocean Floor
________	________
________	________
________	________
________	________
________	________

Name: ____________________ **Date:** ____________

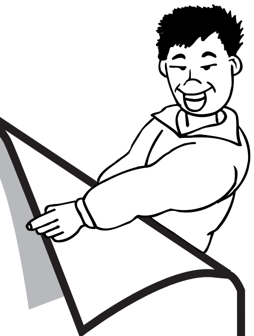


Directions: *Complete the word web using the words written on the sea turtle's shell.*

Sea Turtles

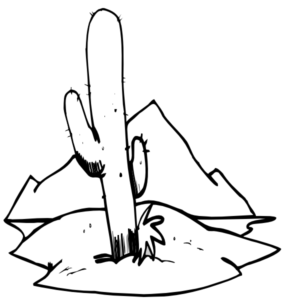


Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



What is an analogy? Think of it as a word puzzle. To solve an analogy, you must first analyze it. That means you have to break it down into parts and examine the relationship of the words.

Example: *Desert* is to *dry* as *ocean* is to ___________.



Step 1. Look at the first two words in italics—*desert* and *dry*.

Step 2. Ask yourself how they are related.

The word *dry* describes the desert environment.

Step 3. Now look at the third word in italics—*ocean*.

Step 4. Ask yourself what word describes an ocean environment

It's *wet*. A *desert* is *dry* and an *ocean* is *wet*.

Directions: *Now you try it. Analyze the relationship between the first two words before you shade the circle in front of the correct answer.*

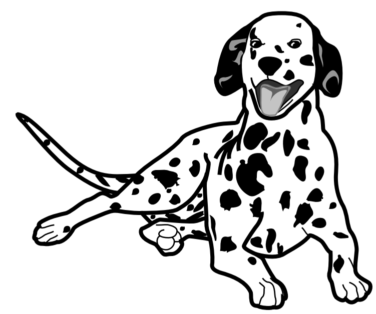
1. *Stop* is to *red* as *go* is to — O green O ready
2. *Listening* is to *ear* as *smelling* is to — O stink O nose
3. *Tree* is to *green* as *snow* is to — O white O fall
4. *Crust* is to *pie* as *icing* is to — O cake O sweet
5. *Key* is to *piano* as *string* as to — O guitar O kite
6. *Arm* is to *person* as *wing* is to — O bird O angel
7. *Loud* is to *scream* as *soft* is to — O cotton O whisper
8. *Snout* is to *dog* as *beak* is to — O peck O duck
9. *Eyebrow* is to *eye* as *moustache* is to — O mouth O hair
10. *Ring* is to *finger* as *bracelet* is to — O wrist O charm

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ________________



You know a lot about words. These analogies are a little tricky, but don't give up.

Directions: *Just think about the relationship between the first two words before you circle the correct answer.*



1. A *Dalmatian* is to *spots* as *zebra* is to (*stripes,* *hooves*).
2. *Circle* is to *sphere* as *square* is to (*cube,* *flat*).
3. *Horse* is to *herd* as *one* is to (*many,* *couple*).
4. *Skin* is to *person* as *hide* is to (*cow,* *seek*).
5. *Hardware store* is to *screwdriver* as *nursery* is to (*dog,* *baby*).
6. *Judge* is to *court* as *umpire* is to (*field,* *player*).
7. *Beef* is to *hamburger* as *potatoes* are to (*bake,* *french fries*).
8. *Absent* is to *gone* as *present* is to (*here,* *gift*).
9. *Member* is to *club* as *daughter* is to (*sister,* *family*).
10. *Window* is to *house* as *porthole* is to (*part,* *ship*).
11. *Rob* is to *steal* as *purchase* is to (*buy,* *take*).
12. *Graph* is to *chart* as *photograph* is to (*film,* *picture*).
13. *Shell* is to *clam* as *crust* is to (*pie,* *crumbs*).
14. *Gas* is to *car* as *food* is to (*body,* *dinner*).
15. *Logging* is to *timber* as *harvesting* is to (*tractor,* *crop*).
16. *Joke* is to *amuse* as *exam* is to (*tell,* *test*).

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________

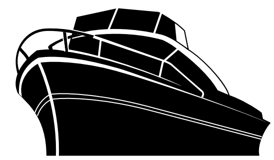


Hey, I know you're smart, but it's my job to remind you. Think about how the first two words are related. Then you can figure out the missing word.

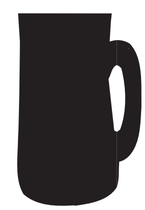
Directions: *Finish the analogy. Write the correct letter in the blank.*

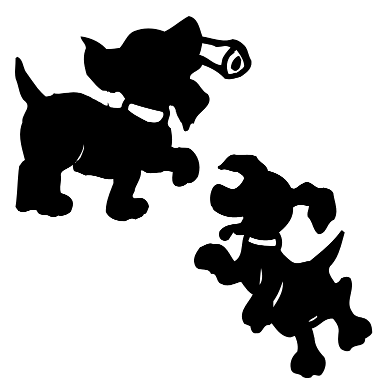
1. *Lampshade* is to *lamp* as *glass* is to ______.
2. *Hat* is to *product* as *haircut* is ______.
3. *Yacht* is to *boat* as *mansion* is to ______.
4. *5* is to *30* as *8* is to ______.
5. *New* is to *old* as *recent* is to ______.
6. *Fact* is to *true* as *opinion* is to ______.
7. *Rash* is to *spot* as *cut* is to ______.
8. *Do not* is to *don't* as *will not* is to ______.
9. *Pup* is to *pups* as *woman* is to ______.
10. *Noun* is to *thing* as *verb* is to ______.
11. *Enter* is to *in* as *exit* is to ______.
12. *Four* is to *rectangle* as *three* is to ______.
13. *Creek* is to *river* as *rock* is to ______.
14. *Drink* is to *liquid* as *eat* is to ______.
15. *Penny* is to *dollar* as *1* is to ______.

A. belief
B. 48
C. nick
D. action
E. triangle
F. service
G. out
H. boulder
I. solid
J. lantern
K. won't
L. past
M. 100
N. women
O. house







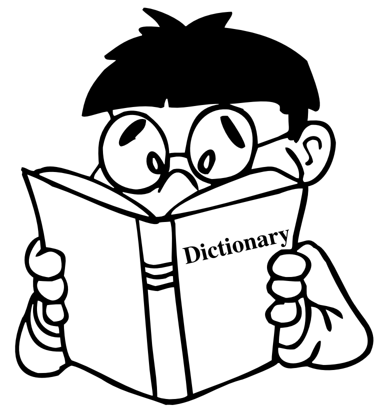


Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ______________



Here's a slick trick. Use a dictionary to look up any words you don't know.

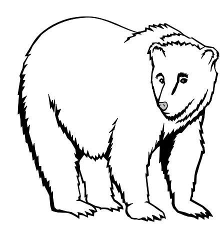
Directions: *Finish the analogy. Write the missing word.*



1. *Ill* is to *healthy* as *idle* is to ______________________________.
   poor bored busy
2. *Pear* is to *bear* as *cat* is to ______________________________.
   fish paw bat
3. *A* is to *tomato* as *an* is to ______________________________.
   red apple fruit
4. *Cancel* is to *never* as *postpone* is to ______________________________.
   delay play call
5. *Breeze* is to *wind* as *shower* is to ______________________________.
   bath gust downpour
6. *Quarrel* is to *fight* as *love* is to ______________________________.
   adore hate win
7. *Cucumber* is to *broccoli* as *carrot* is to ______________________________.
   vegetable pumpkin green
8. *Order* is to *mess* as *lots* is to ______________________________.
   many large few
9. *Trade* is to *swap* as *send* is to ______________________________.
   deliver launch revise
10. *Amateur* is to *professional* as *good* is to ______________________________.
    fun work excellent







Name: ____ **Date:** ________________________

Here's a hint to make your life easier...putting what you read into a chart helps you keep the information organized.



Directions: *Read the article and fill in the chart. You may write the same information more than once.*

A Dog's Life

How does a dog's lifespan compare to a human's? Simply multiply the dog's age by seven and you can see what it equals in human years. During years one and two of a dog's life, it is still a puppy. It acts like a baby, eats a lot, and has non-stop energy. It also must try things many times before it learns them, just like you. Years three to five are the young adult years. Dogs this age are usually confident, healthy, and strong. Age six to eight marks a dog's middle-age years. They still like to play, be trained, and go for walks but may like to relax a bit more, too. By this stage of life, a dog is happily part of your family. If your dog is nine or ten years old, then your pal is really a senior citizen. Senior dogs are sweet and not demanding. They may also have more health problems. Most dogs this age just like to be by your side and to be petted a lot.



Dog Years	Human Years	Stage of Life	A Characteristic
1	7		
2		Puppy	
3			
4			
5			
6			
7		Middle-age	
8	56		
9		Senior	
10			

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________

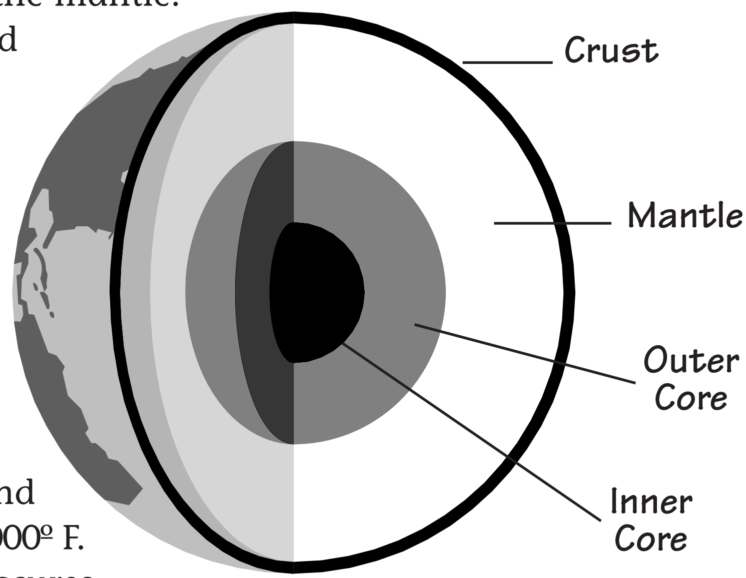


Text and a table—it's not just for looks, you know. Putting what you have read into a table is a high-octane strategy to fuel your reading power.

Directions: *Fill in the table.*

Earth's Layer Cake

If you could slice the earth like a piece of layer cake, you would see different layers of solid and liquid. These layers, formed early in the history of the earth, consist of four main kinds. The crust is the earth's outer layer. It is mostly solid rock and is up to 34 miles thick. Below the crust is the mantle. This layer is about 1,800 miles thick and consists of an upper and lower layer of molten, or melted, rock. It can be up to 5,400º F in the mantle. Next comes the outer core. This 2,225-mile thick layer is even hotter than the mantle. At about 7,200º F you can imagine that this layer is all liquid. Geologists who study the earth think the outer core is made up of melted iron and nickel. By contrast, the inner core is solid nickel and iron, and has a temperature of about 12,000º F. This layer at the center of the earth measures about 795 miles thick.



Layer	Thickness	Solid? Liquid?	Temperature	Material
Inner Core				
Outer Core				
Mantle				
Crust				

Name: ____________________ **Date:** ____________

Hmmm...ancient Chinese philosophers tell us to use the words in a sentence to unlock its meaning.



Directions: *Here are some quotes by Confucius. Think about what his saying mean and then write your conclusions on the lines below. If you see any words you do not know, be sure to look them up in a dictionary.*

Confucius



- An important figure in ancient Chinese history
- Teacher
- Philosopher
- A man of learning

Confucius lived more than two centuries ago in China. He believed a person should honor his or her parents, whether living or not. He also believed that people had a duty to live by five virtues—kindness, uprightness, decorum, wisdom, and faithfulness. Confucius said many wise things that people still repeat today.



1. "If you are strict with yourself, your mistakes will be few."

____

____

2. "To study and not think is a waste. To think and not study is dangerous."

____

____

3. "To make a mistake and not correct it—this is a real mistake."

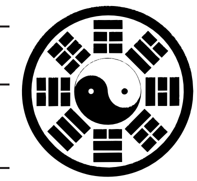
____

____

4. "One who has reached the age of 40 and is disliked, will be disliked to the end."

____

____



Name: ________________________ **Date:** __________



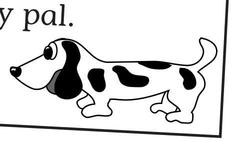
It's cool to be totally...sure, that is. Always reread and ask yourself questions until you are sure you have enough information to reach a conclusion.

Directions: *These dogs and cats are available for adoption at the animal shelter. Read about each pet and then answer the questions.*

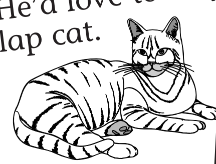
Bones is an adult collie mix with energy and a good disposition. He loves people and loves to play. He seems very interested in cats, too.



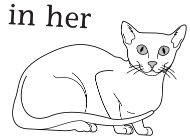
Rugby is an older Basset Hound with still a lot of life left. He loves to lay on his back and snooze. He's a funny pal.



Fall in love with Romeo. This gent is four years old and purrs constantly. He'd love to be your lap cat.



Here's April. This cutie is a declawed housecat who is full of fun and mischief. You'll love the sparkle in her green eyes.



Check out Austin. She is just getting over a broken leg, but doing well. This Yorkie puppy has long hair and loves to be brushed.



1. Which pet would really need a yard? ____________________
   Why? ____________________
2. Which pet do you think would best get along with a large family? ____________________
   Why? ____________________
3. Which pet might be best for an older person? ____________________
   Why? ____________________
4. Which pet would be best if you lived in an apartment? ____________________
   Why? ____________________
5. Which pet would most enjoy a home with a sunroom? ____________________
   Why? ____________________
6. Which pet most needs a home that can give it special care? ____________________
   Why? ____________________
7. Which pet would be best for a family that already has a cat? ____________________
   Why? ____________________
8. Which pet might require a lot of patience? ____________________
   Why? ____________________
9. Which pet needs a new home the most? ____________________
   Why do you think so? ____________________

Name: ____________________ **Date:** ____________________



Hey, this is backwards! But. . . reading the questions on a worksheet <u>before</u> you read is a good way to get your brain ready to remember what you need to know.

Directions: *First, read the questions. Next, study the weather forecast. Last, answer the questions.*

5-Day Forecast for Seattle, Washington				
Monday	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**
Rain clouds	Clouds	Scattered showers	Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy
Hi 62 Lo 52	Hi 64 Lo 46	Hi 69 Lo 52	Hi 71 Lo 49	Hi 70 Lo 47
Wind W 23 mph	Wind W 11 mph	Wind W 21 mph	Wind E 5 mph	Wind NE 8 mph

1. How would you categorize the weather for this week—stable or unsettled? Why?
____

2. As the week progresses, what will happen? ______________________
____

3. If you wanted to collect rainwater for your science class, which day would be better—Monday or Wednesday? Why? ______________________
____

4. What can you conclude about the week's low temperatures? ____________
____

5. What can you conclude about wind when rain moves in? ______________
____

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ____________



Hey, do this first! Scan the chart and then ask yourself questions about it. This gets your brain ready to work.

Directions: *Here is a chart that shows three kinds of rates for long distance calls. Study the chart and then answer the questions.*

Highest rate $.50/min.	Regular rate $.30/min.	Lowest rate $.20/min.



Long Distance Rates							
Time	**Sun.**	**Mon.**	**Tues.**	**Wed.**	**Thurs.**	**Fri.**	**Sat.**
8 am to 4 pm							
4 pm to 10 pm							
10 pm to 8 am							

1. On which day of the week are the cheapest rates? ______________________________
2. What is the difference between the highest rate and the lowest rate?

   ____
3. During which time of the day is it cheapest to make a long-distance call?

   ____
4. If you wanted to call your grandmother on Sunday, during which times of the day would it be the cheapest to do so? ______________________________
5. You talk to your Aunt Lottie on Wednesday morning at 10 am for three minutes. How much will the call cost? ______________________________
6. How are weekdays between 8 am to 4 pm different from weekends during that time? ______________________________
7. How does the rate on Saturday between 4 pm and 10 pm differ from that time during the rest of the week? ______________________________
8. What do you think the rate would be if you started a call at 3:30 pm on Friday and finished it at 4:30 pm? ______________________________

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ______________



Word to the wise—idioms are words or phrases that mean something different from the individual words. They may make you smile. They may seem easy…but they are not a piece of cake.

Directions: *Read each sentence. Write the letter of the phrase or word that is the meaning of the underlined words. Use clues from the other words in the sentences to help you.*

a. easy	b. depressed	c. quit
d. a long time	e. is bothersome, annoying	f. tired, worn out
g. very hard	h. change your mind	i. anger
j. go to bed	k. look like	l. disciplined



_____ 1. I am so tired that I think I'll just hit the sack.

_____ 2. Twila yelled at her sister, and that caused hard feelings between them.

_____ 3. Let's call it a day because we've worked long enough.

_____ 4. Wills got called on the carpet for using Dad's power tools without permission.

_____ 5. Aunt Ruth said I am the spitting image of my grandpa.

_____ 6. My older brother plays loud music, and it drives me up a wall.

_____ 7. Wow, a big storm blew in, and it's raining cats and dogs!

_____ 8. When Stewart's pet turtle died, he was down in the dumps for a week.

_____ 9. Learning how to tie shoes took forever and was not a piece of cake.

_____ 10. We haven't seen our cousins in Ohio for ages.

_____ 11. Mom got pretty run down, and then she got the flu.

_____ 12. Manny is late for the track meet, so I hope he didn't chicken out.

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ______________



Now that you know about idioms, ask yourself—which group of words in the sentence is unusual compared to the rest of the words?

Directions: *Read each sentence. Then read it again and underline the idiom.*



1. The clown was funny—he kept us in stitches.
2. The artist is so good that she's a cut above the rest.
3. My new pants fit like a glove.
4. Jeremy was on pins and needles waiting for his birthday to arrive.
5. The cake must have been good because the guests tore through it.
6. If you blame me, you'll be barking up the wrong tree.
7. Ben was so tired he didn't give a hoot about missing the movie.
8. She heard it straight from the horse's mouth.
9. My dad hit the ceiling when he saw my report card.
10. Mom always tells Dad not to be a back seat driver.
11. Aunt Velma drinks milk by the oceans.
12. Can you keep this secret under your hat?
13. My little sister is always trying to pass the buck.
14. This science project is no bed of roses.
15. A new puppy can be a pain in the neck until it's trained.
16. This book of tall tales really cracks me up.

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ____________



Be a smartie. Go back and check the article if you don't know the answer. Remember to ask yourself—who, what, where, when, why.

Directions: *Write phrases to tell about the details of the news story.*

Daily News and Views

Man Makes Daring Cat Rescue

(Higgins, New York) — Dan Raskin became a neighborhood hero Monday night when he came to the rescue of an unlucky mother cat. Neighbors on Barrington Street spotted the cat at the top of a utility pole about 4 p.m. They called the utility company, which promised to send out a crew to rescue the frightened puss. When no one showed up and snow began falling, Raskin went into action. Using his mountain-climbing gear, he scaled the two-story pole. He nabbed the cat by the back of its neck and dropped it safely into a quilt being held like a net by four other neighbors. The cat was happily returned to its owners who rewarded Raskin with a macaroni and cheese dinner and one of the cat's kittens.



1. Who? ______________________________

____

2. Did what? ______________________________

____

3. Where? ______________________________

____

4. When? ______________________________

____

5. Why? ______________________________

____

6. How? ______________________________

____

Name: ____________________ **Date:** ____________________



Let's play detective. Just keep your eye out for clues in the details hat will help you predict what is happening.

Directions: *Read each paragraph, follow the directions, and then write your prediction.*

Coyote Crossing

Every afternoon, a very confident-looking coyote would show up around the trash bin at the mini-mart in the small town of Dorado. The coyote appeared to come from a nearby open field. However, there was a very busy highway between the mini-mart and the field. People wondered how the coyote got across the road safely each afternoon.

Predict how you think the coyote crossed the road safely.

____

____

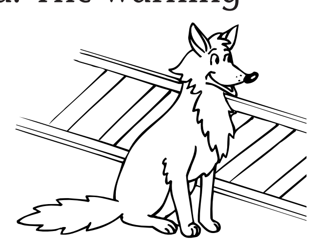
People also noticed that the coyote wandered to the store every day a short time after the 5 p.m. train passed by. This was even more confusing because the train crossed the highway in the same spot from which the coyote seemed to come. Everyone thought it was odd that the train, as well as the railroad crossing lights and bells, did not scare off the coyote during that time of the day.

Now that you have more information or clues, revise your prediction.

____

____

One afternoon the mini-mart manager decided to do some detective work. He parked his truck near the train crossing around 5 p.m. and waited. The warning lights flashed and guard rails lowered as the train approached. The traffic came to a stop. Suddenly, the manager saw the coyote sneak from behind a big bush. Then the brave animal simply trotted through rows of stopped cars and toward his usual afternoon destination. What a crafty critter!



Was your prediction close, a little close, or way off? ______________________

Underline the sentence in the story that first hints about what the coyote was really doing.

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________________



Take it from me. A careful reader takes the time to reread things he or she doesn't understand.

Directions: *Read each paragraph, follow the directions, and then answer the questions.*



One summer day, Martin zipped up his front steps and headed to the front door, which was shaded by the front porch. That's when he spotted it. It was dark brown, it was furry, and it was clinging upside down to the wall just above his front door. Martin's skin began to crawl as he realized what he was seeing. He prayed it was sound asleep.

1. What do you think Martin saw? ______________________________
2. What words or phrases prove this? ______________________________

____

Martin took a deep breath, raced through the door, and slammed it shut. Thank goodness the movement didn't wake it and cause it to fly into the house! After he and his mom talked about the unusual situation, they called the police and asked for advice. The police dispatcher said she would send out an animal control officer to remove it.

3. Do you want to change your prediction? ______________________________
4. If yes, what words make you think so? ______________________________

____

The animal control officer put a special box over the creature and gently scooped it off the wall. It squeaked a bit when it was disturbed. "It's a good thing you called us," he said. "Once a bat finds a place to sleep, it keeps coming back. It's not healthy to have them near your home. I'll release it in an open space away from people's homes."

My prediction was	❑ right	❑ wrong	❑ somewhat right

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ______________________________



Wake up! Pay attention to your opinions and feelings as you read something.

Directions: *Read the article and answer the questions.*

Do you skip breakfast? Millions of Americans do and if you are one of them, you are putting your ability to think and learn at risk. Skipping breakfast can cause you to be hungry, tired, and crabby by the middle of the morning.

Why is that? First, when you wake up you have not eaten for about eight hours. Your body's fuel, called glucose, is low. Eating breakfast raises the level of glucose in your brain. Your brain requires a constant flow of glucose in order to do mental work. So eating breakfast will give you a mental edge at school.



What if you don't have enough time for breakfast or if you are not hungry when you wake up? Having something for breakfast is better than nothing. Drink some milk or juice. Then catch a nutritious snack later on in the morning. Yogurt, dry cereal, cheeses, or fruit are good choices.

What if you don't like breakfast foods? Then eat healthy foods you do like. Even cold pizza or a fruit smoothie can power your morning. Any way you look at it, there's no reason to skip this essential meal.

1. Do you skip breakfast? ______ Why or why not? ______________________________

____

____

2. What did you learn form reading this article? ______________________________

____

____

3. Will this knowledge change your breakfast habits? ______ Why or why not? ______

____

____

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ______________



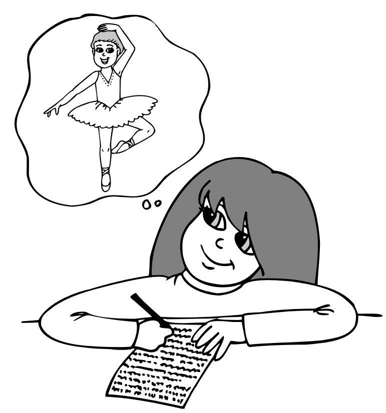
Go ahead, get a picture in your head. Read the title and scan the text. Then have fun with this dreamy activity.

Directions: *Read the list and answer the questions.*

The Mind's Movie

Everyone daydreams from time to time. Here are the top 10 good things about daydreams.

1. You can daydream anywhere. (Just don't do it in class.)
2. A daydream might cheer you up.
3. You can fulfill your wishes in a daydream.
4. You can be awake and daydream.
5. You can have the same daydream over and over.
6. Daydreams are like movies.
7. A daydream might ease tension or stress.
8. Daydreams are private.
9. A daydream can take you anywhere you want to go.
10. Daydreams are free.



1. Describe one of your daydreams. ______________________________________

____

____

2. When or where do you daydream most often? ___________________________

____

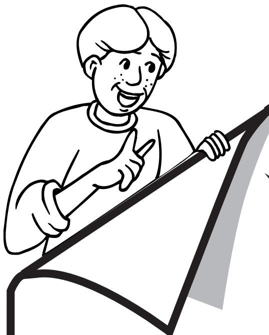
____

3. Based on your experience with daydreams, what would you say is a reason why you daydream? ____

____

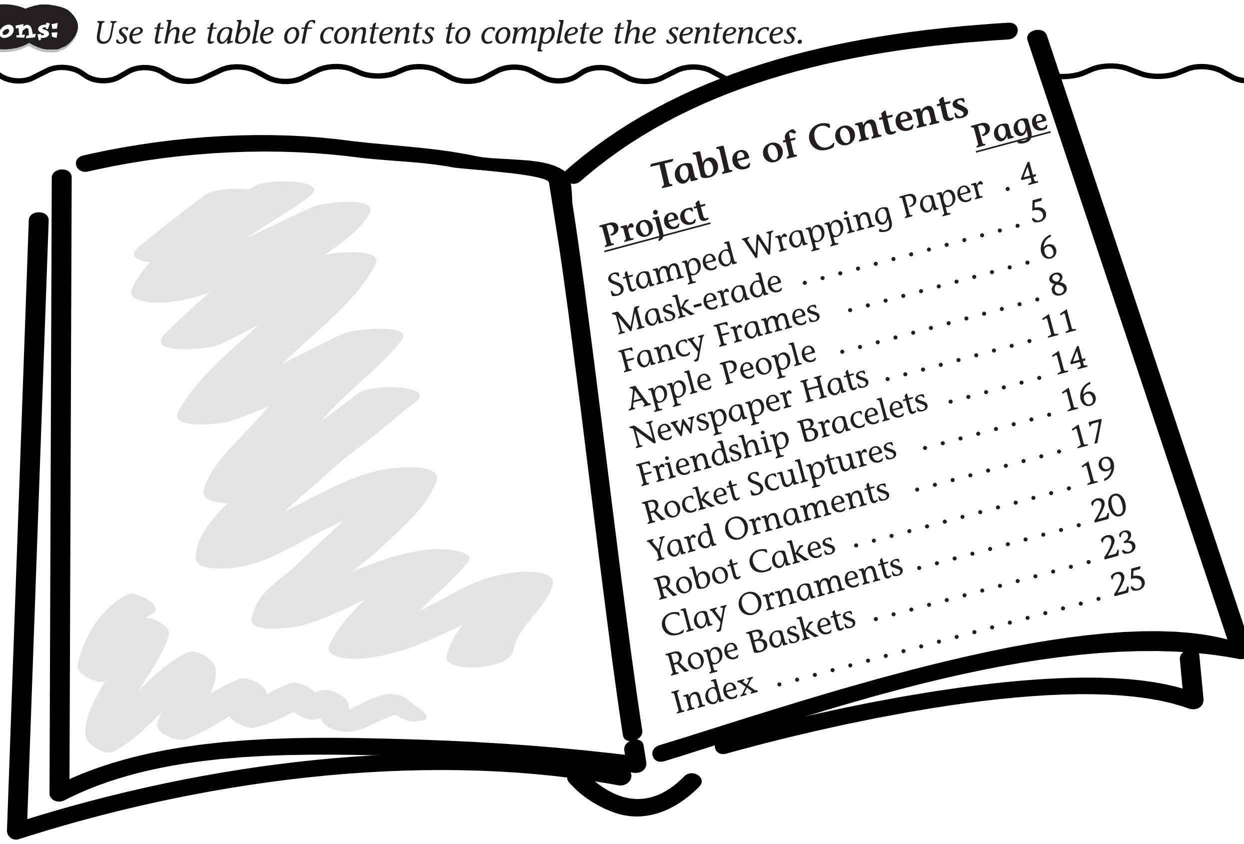
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Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ________________



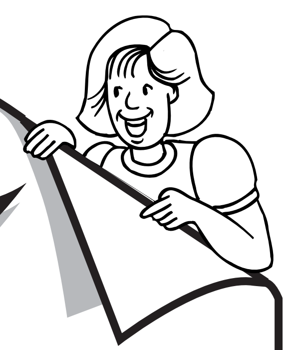
Reading the table of contents helps you know what a book is about.

Directions: *Use the table of contents to complete the sentences.*



1. This table of contents is probably from a book about ___________________________.
2. On page 14 you can find a way to make ________________________________.
3. The book has ______ pages that tell how to make fancy frames.
4. The title of page 16 is ____.
5. This book has at least ______ pages.
6. The index starts on page ______.
7. If you wanted a project to decorate your yard, you would look on page _______.
8. You know that you will probably need to bake the project on page 19 because ____.
9. You might need ______________ and ______________ to make the project on page 4.
10. If you did not have any ________________________________ you probably couldn't make the project on page 11.

Name: ____ **Date:** ______________________



Here's the skinny! An outline is a skeleton for a paragraph, story, or article.

Directions: *Write the main topics from the book on the correct place on the outline.*

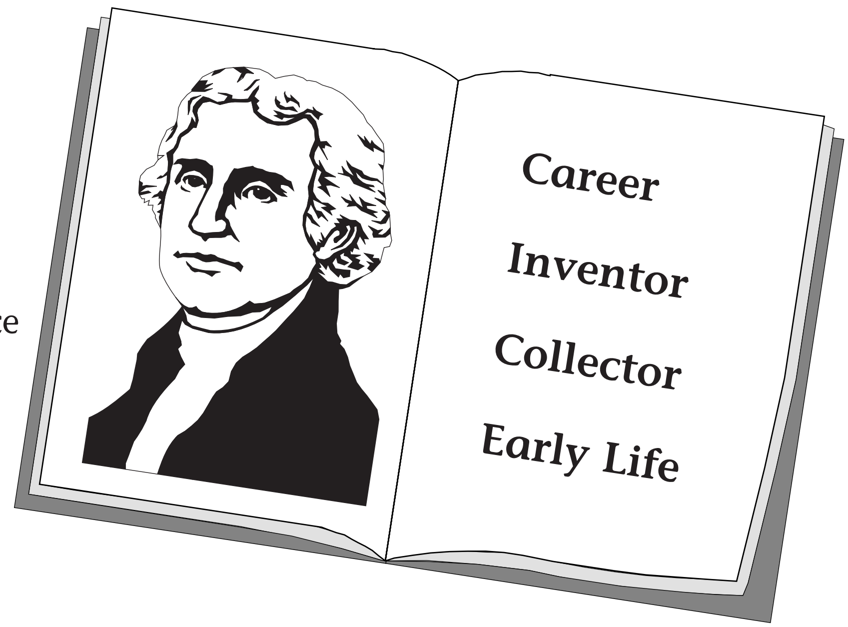
Thomas Jefferson

I. ______________________
- A. Family
- B. Education
- C. Marriage
- D. Career

II. ______________________
- A. Declaration of Independence
- B. State legislator
- C. Governor
- D. Vice president
- E. President

III. ______________________
- A. Dumbwaiter
- B. Swivel chair
- C. Lamp-heater
- D. Improved plow

IV. ______________________
- A. City plans
- B. Books
- C. Scientific instruments



Write two questions about Jefferson that you think would be answered if you were to read the whole book.

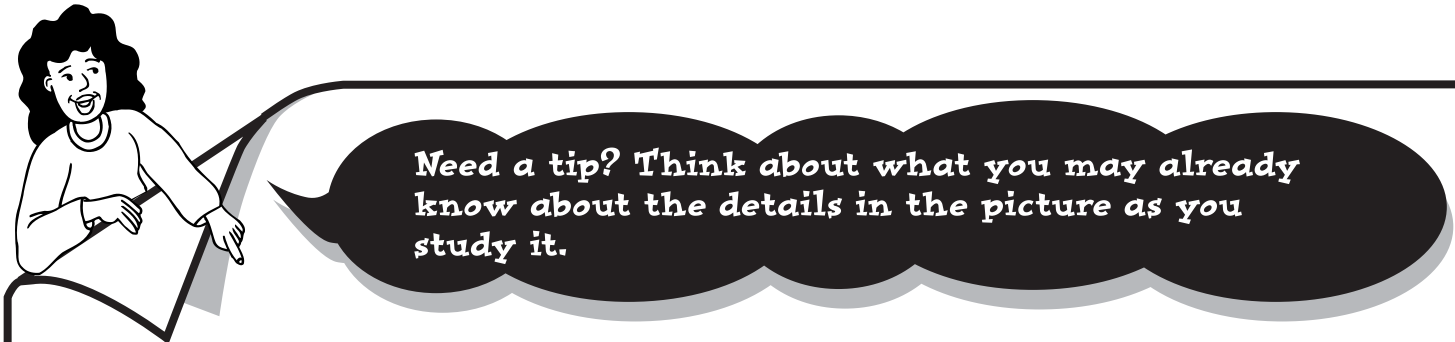
1. ____

____

2. ____

____

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Directions: *Study the picture for clues. Then write a sentence about what you think you will learn by reading the paragraph. Last, read the paragraph and rate your prediction.*



This is cave art. It was produced about 15,000 years ago during the time known as the Stone Age. Most cave art has been discovered in caves and rock shelters in Europe. These drawings are very large—some are more than six feet in length. The scenes commonly feature animals such as horses, bison, or deer. Researchers have observed that these red drawings were painted on the walls of the cave, rather than carved on them. Cave artists probably created paint by mixing clay with animal fat and applied the paint using crushed twigs, reeds, or brushes made from animal hair. Was this form of art just for decoration or did it mean something? Researchers have a lot of ideas, but no one knows for sure. One idea is that the pictures were painted to create magic for a successful hunt. Another idea is that the pictures of the animals were painted as part of a ceremony in the hope that the animals would produce offspring, which would provide food for the future.

____

____

____

My prediction had something to do with the paragraph. ❒ Yes ❒ No.

Name: ____________________________ **Date:** ________________



Look here! When you skim, move your eyes quickly over the information. Just look at what jumps out at you.

Directions: *Skim the chart and predict what you will learn by studying it. Write your prediction.*

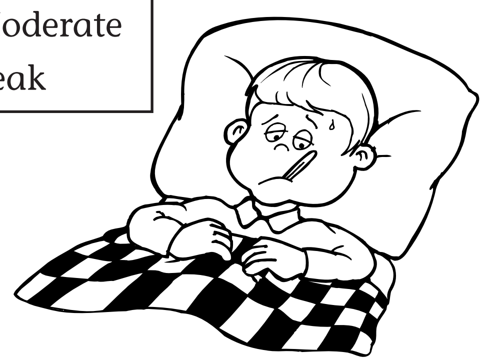
Prediction: ____

____

Flu Report for January—Tennessee				
CITY	**STAGE**			
	Week 1	**Week 2**	**Week 3**	**Week 4**
Memphis	High	High	High	Low
Nashville	High	Peak	Peak	High
Knoxville	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Chattanooga	Low	Low	Peak	Peak

LEGEND
Peak
High
Moderate
Low
None

Source: *Cases reported by doctors who saw ill patients.*



Write "yes" if the sentence is a conclusion you could draw or something you could infer from the chart. Write "no" if it is not.

______ 1. The people in Knoxville seem to be the healthiest during January.

______ 2. As the month came to an end, not as many people in Memphis were sick.

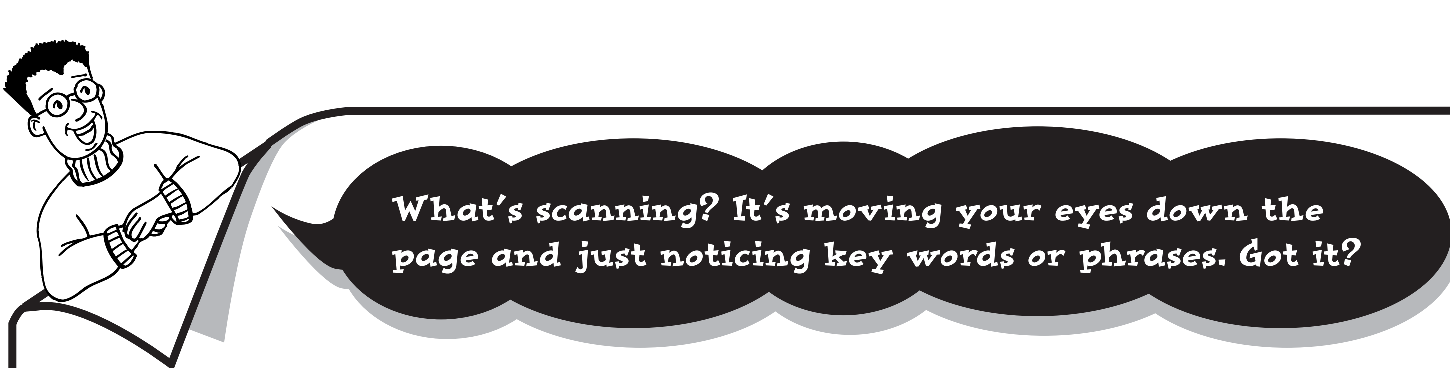
______ 3. The situation was really bad in Chattanooga the whole month.

______ 4. Peak is probably equal to an epidemic, or a widespread numbers of cases.

______ 5. This chart shows all people who had the flu in January.

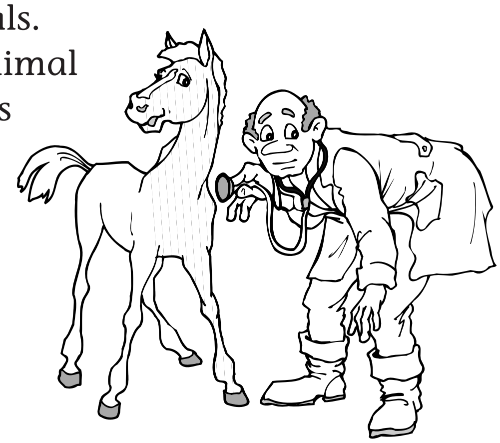
My reading prediction was
❐ on the mark ❐ close ❐ so-so ❐ way off

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Directions: *Scan the paragraph to preview what it says. Then write a sentence to predict what you think you will learn when you read it carefully. Then, answer the questions.*

You may be acquainted with your family veterinarian, or vet, who treats your family pet. However, the field of veterinary medicine is not limited to taking care of dogs and cats. Some vets specialize, or restrict their practice, to certain kinds of animals, such as horses, birds, reptiles, or zoo animals. Other kinds of vets may treat just certain types of animal problems—for example, eye or skin diseases. Farmers and ranchers may hire vets to manage their cattle, dairy, or poultry farms. Professors of veterinary medicine work at universities teaching students who will some day become vets. Still other vets conduct research or work for companies that make human drugs. So you see, many types of work are possible for someone who chooses to become a vet.



Prediction: ____

____

Did what you learn match your prediction? ______________________

If no, write a sentence about something you did learn.

____

____

____

____

____

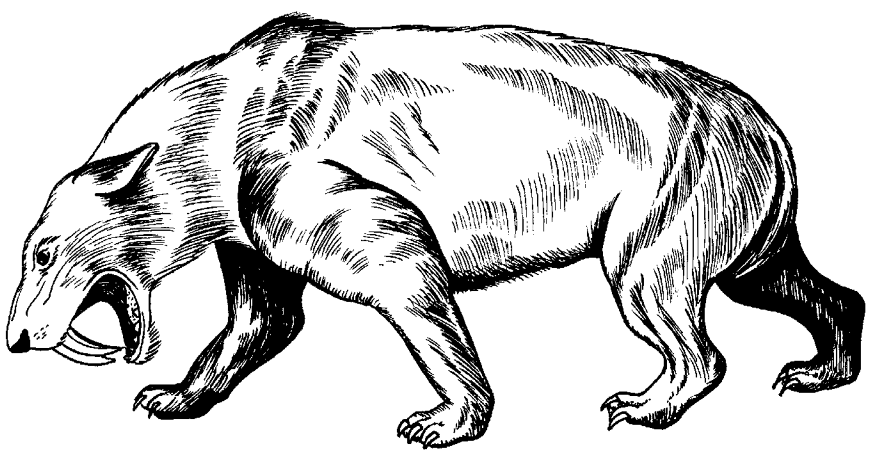
Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Hey, you know how to scan. Just move your eyes down the paragraph without stopping to read all the words.

Directions: *Scan the paragraph to preview it. Then read the statements. Check the ones that you predict the paragraph will include. Then read the paragraph and check the statements again to confirm your predictions.*

You will never see a live saber-toothed tiger. That is because it became extinct about 11,000 years ago during the Ice Age. Even though it is called a tiger, scientists don't agree that it was truly a big cat. It was the size of a present-day lion, but it had several features that made it somewhat different. For one, it had striking-looking teeth. Two large, blade-like teeth hung down about seven inches from its upper jaw. It also walked flat-footed, much the same way a bear walks. By comparison, all cats walk on their toes. Its legs were short, which means it couldn't run fast or far like most cats can.



Prediction	Confirmation	
❐	❐	1. The saber-toothed tiger lived in North America.
❐	❐	2. This animal lived during the Ice Age.
❐	❐	3. It was about the size of a lion.
❐	❐	4. It did not walk like a cat.
❐	❐	5. It ate mastodons.
❐	❐	6. Its huge upper teeth were a striking feature.

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Scanning helps you use what you know to predict what the article will be about. Use this strategy every time you read.

Directions: *Look quickly at the bold topic sentences below, but don't read the rest of the text yet. Now write a sentence to predict what you think each tip will tell you. Then read the whole page.*

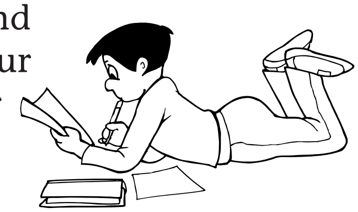
Tips for Kids Who Have to Do Homework

Keep your goals in mind. Making an effort to do well in school is easier if you keep in mind what you are trying to achieve. Pick two kinds of goals. Pick one that you can do now or this year. Then pick one for when you get older, like when you go to college or get a job. When things get tough as they sometimes do, picture yourself meeting those goals. This will help you get back on track.

Plan your study time. You cannot earn good grades if you do not plan well. Sports activities and time with family and friends can take over your life, leaving you with little time to study. The solution is to make a daily study schedule and follow it.

Pick the best place to study. Not everyone studies well in a bedroom or at a desk. Those are good places, but experiment with studying in different places until you find what works best for you.

Don't study for too long. Your brain needs a break now and then in order to work well. Study for no more than one hour before you take a quick break. Get a snack, pet the dog, or say hello to a family member but then go right back to work.



- Keep your goals in mind. ______________________________

____

- Plan your study time. ______________________________

____

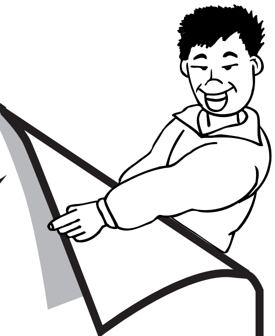
- Pick the best place to study. ______________________________

____

- Don't study for too long. ______________________________

____

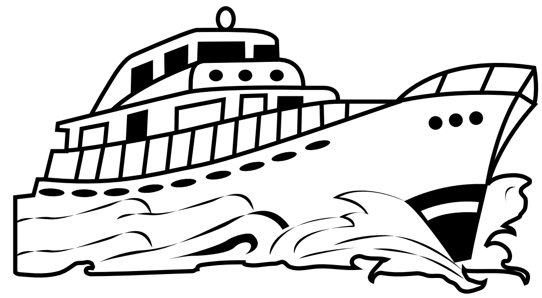
Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Directions: *Read the topic sentence and then make a prediction about what the rest of the paragraph may say. Next, read the rest of the paragraph. Last, rate your prediction.*

Topic Sentence

You might think laws are just for land, but laws are made for the oceans and seas as well.



Prediction: ____

____

No single country owns the seas and oceans of the world. Therefore, nations of the world have had to work together to agree on how to deal with ships, crews, cargoes, ship passengers, fishing, and exploration when a problem arises on the high seas. This kind of law is known as maritime law. Maritime law has existed a long time—it dates back to the age of the Roman empire. Today some countries, like the United States and Great Britain, have their own maritime laws that govern their citizens' use of the high seas. The United Nations is the world organization that works to develop and enforce, or carry out, maritime laws worldwide. However, not all nations agree with the United Nations' ideas on how to govern the oceans and seas.

My prediction was ❑ True ❑ False ❑ Somewhere in between

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Use the same four steps below with any topic you read. You can bet it will supercharge your reading power.

Directions: *Think about the title and complete the first two steps. Then read the paragraph. Last, complete the third and fourth steps.*

Step 1: One thing I know about tall tales.

____

____

Step 2: A question I have about tall tales.

____

____



Tall Tales

Tall tales are amusing stories in which the narrator tries to make the reader believe something that is an exaggeration of the truth. These tales came about at a time in the history of the United States when people were exploring the frontier and moving west. A tall tale usually has a character that is a hero. Some of the heroes in these tales are based on real people, like Davy Crockett, and some characters are entirely fictional, like Paul Bunyan. Most tall tales had events that were too fantastic to believe, like corn sprouting up so quickly it would knock a person over. Tall tales were often told to city dwellers to help them imagine life out West. Many times the exaggerations got bigger every time a tale was retold.

Step 3: Something I learned from reading about tall tales.

____

Step 4: Did I answer my question in Step 2 or learn something else?

____

Name: ____________________ **Date:** ____________________



Right on! You know that you need to base your predictions on clues in the details.

Directions: *Here is an outline of a paragraph about wheat. Look at the details and write two predictions about what you think the paragraph will say. Then, read the paragraph.*

(Main idea) I. Wheat is a food source

Detail A. more than 9,000 years

Detail B. flour

Detail C. pasta

Detail D. breakfast food

Detail E. livestock feed



My predictions:

1.____

2.____

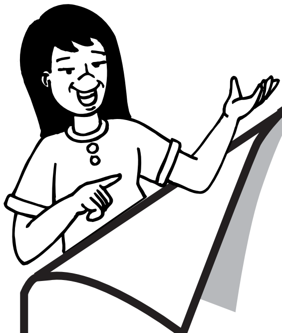
Now read the paragraph.

Is wheat important to the world's food supply? You bet. For more than 9,000 years, people all over the world have used wheat as a food source. The main use of wheat is to make flour for bread, as well as pastries like cakes, pies, and tarts. Most pasta, such as macaroni, is made from a type of wheat called durum. If you eat cereal for breakfast, then chances are you are eating a wheat product. Wheat is also grown as feed for livestock, or farm animals.

Review your predictions and rate them.

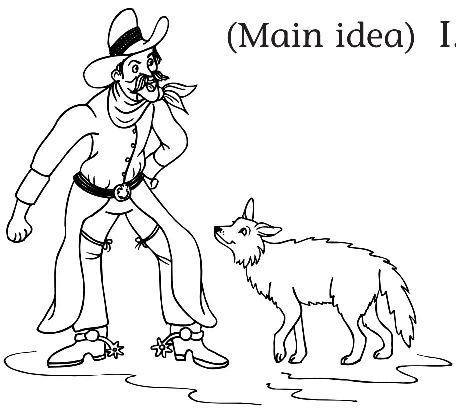
❑ Poor ❑ Not too good ❑ Fair ❑ Very good ❑ Excellent

Name: ____________________ **Date:** ____________



Base your questions on clues in the details and you'll be right on target.

Directions: *Here is an outline of a paragraph about Pecos Bill. Look at the details and write two questions that you think the paragraph will answer. Then read the paragraph.*



(Main idea) I. Pecos Bill—a popular superhuman cowboy character

Detail A. baby pals

Detail B. raised by coyotes

Detail C. adult years

Detail D. an unusual bride

My questions:

1.______________________________

2.______________________________

Now read the paragraph.

In the 1930s, people loved hearing tall tales about the superhuman cowboy known as Pecos Bill. As the story went, Bill played with bears and other wild animals when he was a baby. Then he became separated from his parents and lost, and was raised by coyotes. He roamed the prairies with his pack and forgot what it was like to be human. However, when he was 17, he went to live with humans and became a cowboy who rode a mountain lion and used a rattlesnake as a whip. Of course, he picked an unusual bride. Bill married Slue-Foot Sue, who rode a catfish as big as a whale. Turns out she, too, had a bit of coyote in her, so they were a howling-good match.

Review your questions and rate how well you were able to pick questions that were answered.

❑ Poor ❑ Not too well ❑ Fair ❑ Very well ❑ Excellent

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________

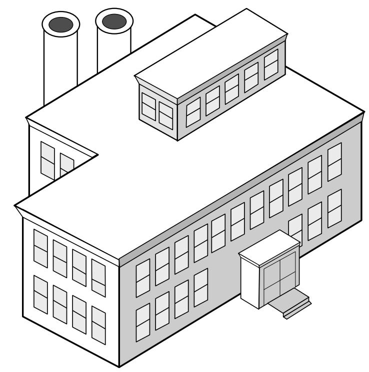


Come on, now. Keep asking yourself: Does the sentence tell something about the main idea?

Directions: *Supporting details add information about the main idea of the paragraph. Read the main idea and the sentences. Check (✔) the sentence if it is a supporting detail.*

Main Idea:

I. From 1870 to 1916, the United States went through a period of growth in many areas.



____ A. Large manufacturing firms opened at that time and hired thousands of workers.

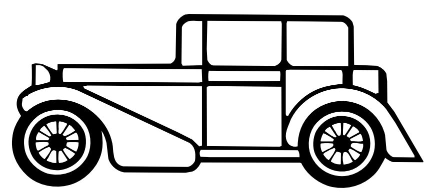
____ B. Eleven new states were added during that time.

____ C. Silver is a white metal.

____ D. Starting in 1870, more than 25 million immigrants flowed into the United States.

____ E. Animals go through changes as they grow.

____ F. At the end of that time, the overall population of the country had tripled.



____ G. Columbus sailed in 1492.

____ H. In the early 1900s automobile sales soared.

Now write the letters of three sentences that do not contain supporting details and explain what made you conclude that they do not.

_____ because ____

____

_____ because ____

____

_____ because ____

____

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Directions: *Read the article and answer the questions.*

Interview with a Killer Bee

Reporter: Killer Bee. Is that your real name?

Bee: No. My real name is Africanized Honey Bee. You can call me A. H.

Reporter: Well, then, A. H., why do they call you a killer bee?

Bee: That's because my kind of bee defends its territory more than other bees. We are more likely to swarm and sting people and animals than a common bee. We're pretty aggressive, all right.

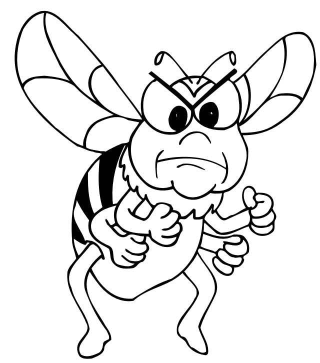
Reporter: Wow, that's interesting. What brought you to the United States?

Bee: You see, back in 1950, some scientists in South America brought bees like me from Africa to Brazil. They needed to breed bees there that liked warm weather.

Reporter: And?

Bee: Wouldn't you know that a bunch of us escaped into the wild. We did well because we had no natural enemies. We could also live on sparse supplies of pollen and nectar. So our population grew fast, and soon we spread up through Mexico and toward the southern United States.

Reporter: Tell me, A. H., are you a useful bee?



Bee: Heck, no. Killer bees are cranky and difficult for beekeepers to manage. We hardly make any honey and we've even caused some deaths.

Reporter: Gee, that doesn't sound too good.

Bee: Yep, we're the problem child of the bee world. Gotta fly. 'Bye.

1. What is your conclusion about the problem with killer bees? ______________________

____

____

2. How do you think this problem should be handled? ______________________

____

____

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________

You can never go wrong...if you reread and rethink.



Directions: *Read the story and then fill in the chart to explain Trent's problem.*

Trent trudged through the parking lot carrying bags of groceries. Finally he got to his red sports car. He stuck the key into the door lock, but it wouldn't turn. He tried it again, but the key still didn't turn. Next he put the groceries on the ground and tried turning the key with two hands. The key just would not budge. "This is really strange," Trent thought. He examined his key ring carefully to be sure he had the right key and then gave it one last try—still no luck. After several minutes of standing there helplessly, he peered through the car window hoping for some clue as to what was happening. He spotted a blue jacket lying on the seat. "No wonder! " he exclaimed out loud. This car looked exactly like his car, but it wasn't. He had the wrong car!

Problem	→	Event or complication	→	Solution
______________		______________		______________

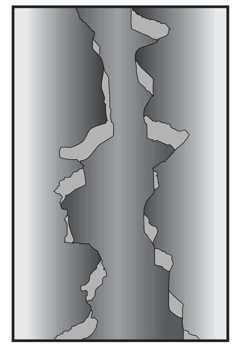
Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Hold on! I think you are going to learn a lot and you can add it to your brain database.

Directions: *Use the grid to answer the questions. Write yes, no, or unknown.*

What do you know about earthquakes? An earthquake is a shaking or trembling of the earth. Earthquakes can occur when huge blocks of rock deep in the earth crack or slip, or when lava or hot gases move around deep in the earth. Some earthquakes are very small. People hardly feel them and they do no damage. But some are so strong they split open the ground, cause buildings to fall, and kill people. The grid below shows some of the biggest earthquakes on record and the number of people who died as a result.



Where	China	Italy	Japan	Portugal	Ecuador
When	1556	1693	early 18th century	1755	1797
Loss of Life	800,000	60,000	200,000	60,000	40,000

1. You were alive during these earthquakes. ______
2. The most deadly earthquake happened in Italy. ______
3. The same number of people died in big earthquakes in Italy and Portugal. ______
4. About 40 years after the big earthquake in Portugal, another big earthquake happened in Ecuador. ______
5. More people died in the earthquake in China than in the earthquake in Japan. ______
6. The chart shows that earthquakes happen all over the world. ______
7. Earthquakes usually occur at night. ______
8. The big earthquake in Japan does not have an exact date. ______
9. The earthquake in Italy injured 10,000 people. ______
10. Eight million people died in the earthquake in China. ______

Name: ______ **Date:** ______



Wanna be a big cheese? Think about all the choices. Ask yourself questions.

Directions: *Read the label below. Then read the questions and circle the letter of the correct answer.*

PULL-APART CHEESE

- Fun to eat
- Just peel off a piece and enjoy
- Nutritious
- Low fat
- Tasty
- All natural
- Ready to go. Just pop into lunchboxes or backpacks
- Lots of strings from just one stick
- Dip it
- Fry it

NO WONDER EVERYONE LOVES IT!

1. What kind of food is this?
   a. a main dish
   b. a snack
   c. a fruit
   d. a candy bar

2. What do you need to eat it?
   a. a spoon
   b. your fingers
   c. a hammer
   d. a bun

3. Who would probably like this food?
   a. anyone who likes cheese
   b. just kids
   c. just grandparents
   d. someone who is not allergic to dairy products

4. What clue tells you that this food is not a candy?
   a. fun to eat
   b. tasty
   c. nutritious
   d. everyone loves it

5. Why would kids like this food?
   a. it's cheap
   b. it's low fat
   c. it's a toy
   d. it's fun to eat

6. What clue tells you that it doesn't take long to prepare this food?
   a. fun to eat
   b. ready to go
   c. tasty
   d. all natural

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________

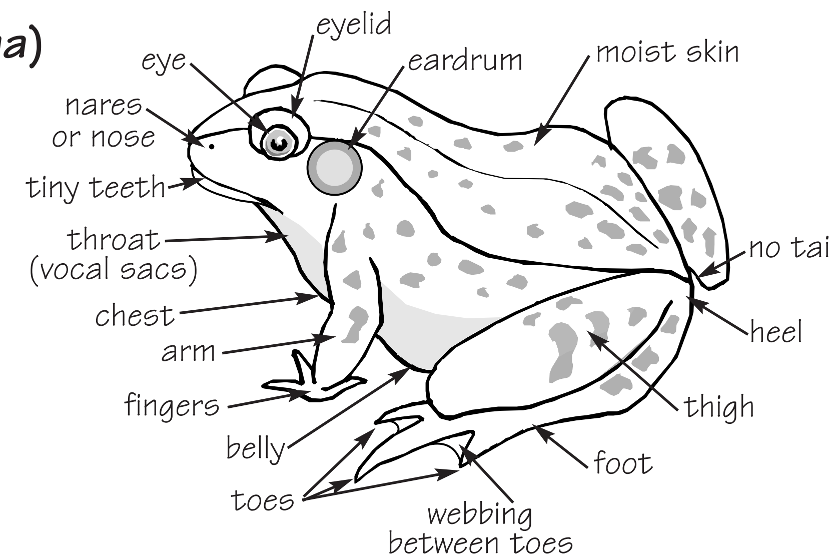


Now don't just hop into this. Take a few minutes to preview, or check out, this diagram before you begin.

Directions: *Examine the diagram of the bullfrog and then answer the questions.*

Bullfrog (*Rana catesbeiana*)

The bullfrog is found around ponds and lakes. It is an amphibian, but it rarely goes on land. Bullfrogs will eat just about anything they can find, even ducklings or smaller frogs.



Write T (true) or F (false).

____ 1. This diagram shows the internal, or inside, features of the bullfrog.
____ 2. The bullfrog's scientific name is *Ranis frogbeiana*.
____ 3. This animal has no tail.
____ 4. The bullfrog's eardrum is larger than its eye.
____ 5. Its toes have webbing all the way to the tips.

Write the answer.

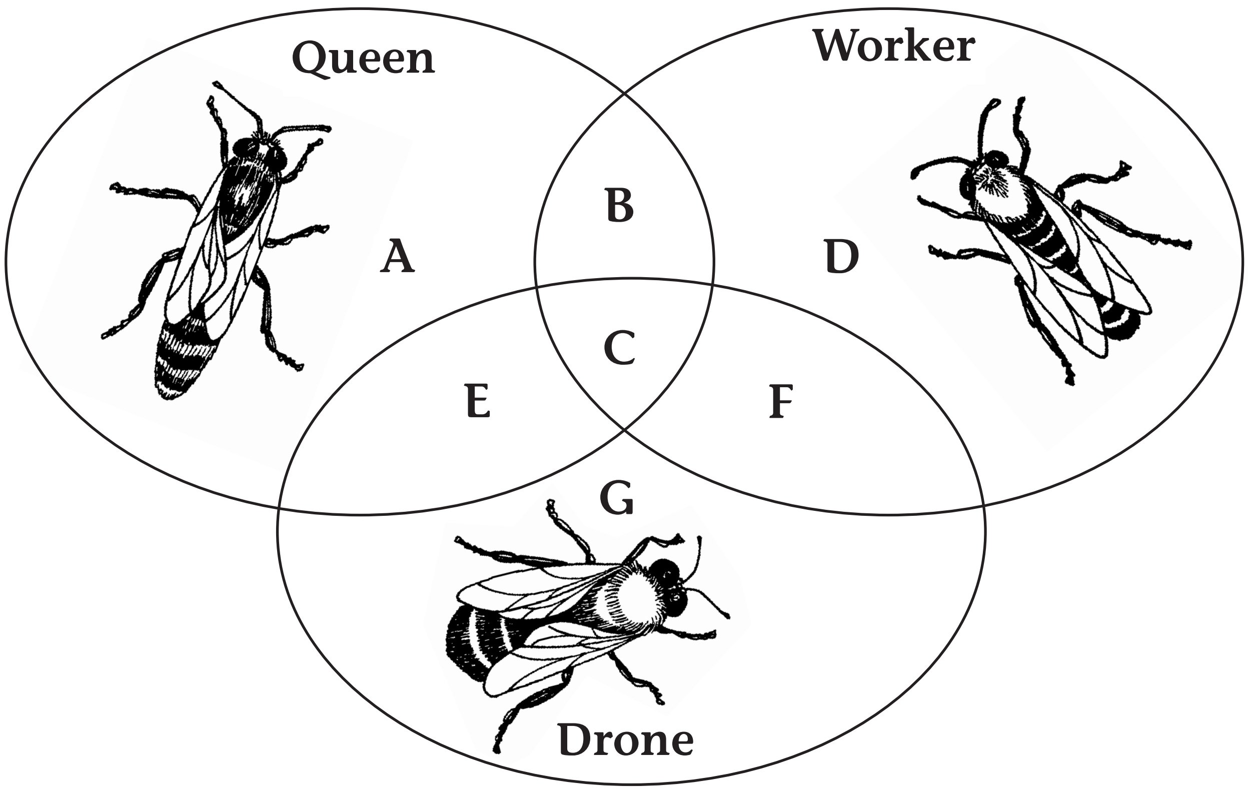
6. What is another word for nose ? ______________________________
7. What are the parts of the leg? ______________________________
8. From what part do you think it produces its loud call? ______________________________
9. What might a bullfrog use its fingers for? ______________________________
____
10. Why do you thinks its toes are webbed? ______________________________
11. Why do you think its skin is moist? ______________________________
12. What evidence can you see on the bullfrog's body to tell you it can eat larger animals? ______________________________

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Boy, this is a little tricky. You are categorizing here. Take your time and double check your answers.

Directions: *Write the letter of the spot on the Venn diagram that shows where the statement could be correctly placed.*



______ 1. Drones, queens, and workers are types of honey bees.
______ 2. The queen looks different from the drones and the workers.
______ 3. A hive contains many drones and workers.
______ 4. Only the workers build and care for the nest.
______ 5. Only the drones and the queen can mate.
______ 6. Only the workers and the queen can sting.
______ 7. Only the queen can lay eggs.
______ 8. The queen and the workers are females.
______ 9. Only the drones are males.
______ 10. Only the queen can sting over and over again.
______ 11. A hive contains only one queen.
______ 12. Only the workers keep the hive cool by fanning their wings.

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________



Check this out! It's called a matrix. It's a diagram that shows relationships.

Directions: *Study the matrix about three famous American explorers. Then use the matrix to answer the questions about them.*

Zebulon Pike	1779-1813	U.S. Army officer	Explored upper Mississippi River, Colorado, New Mexico	• Discovered Pike's Peak in Colorado. The mountain was named after him.
John Muir	1838-1914	Naturalist	Explored Alaska and California; Crusaded for creating national parks; Authority on forest management	Named for him • Muir Woods National Monument in California • glacier in Alaska
John Charles Frémont	1813-1890	U.S. Army officer	Explored area between Rocky Mountains and Pacific Ocean; Mapped the Oregon Trail	• U. S. Senator from California • Governor of Arizona • Ran for U.S. President in 1856



1. What did Frémont and Pike have in common? ______________________________

____

2. Which explorer would have known the most about trees? ______________________________

____

3. If you were a pioneer traveling west by wagon, who would you call? ____________________

____

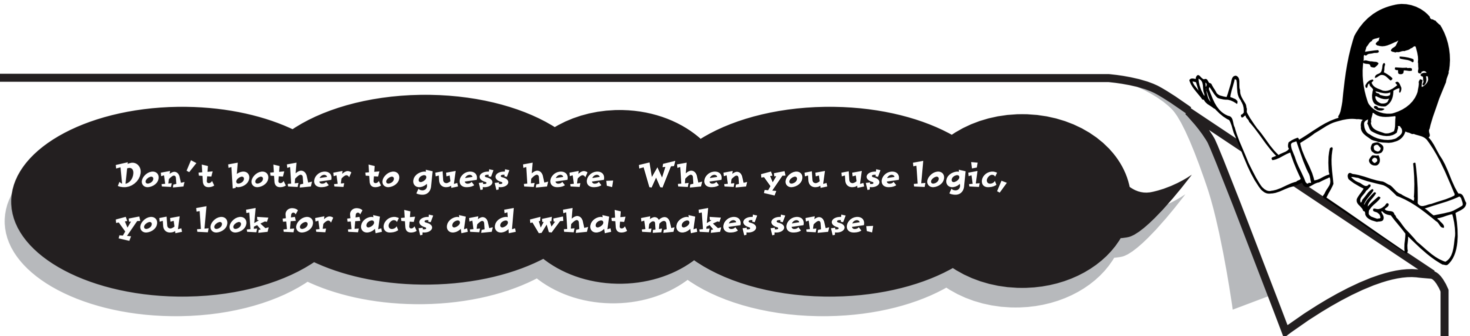
4. How was Frémont's life different from that of the other two? ______________________

____

5. What is similar about the places all these men explored? __________________________

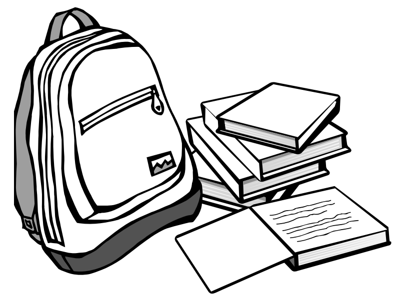
____

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________



Directions: *These kids go to a school where they switch classes for different subjects. Study the class schedule matrix that shows some classes and some of the kids in those classes. Then use it to complete the sentences.*

	1st period Computers	2nd period Reading	3rd period Math	4th period Library
Devon	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Jules	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Brittany	No	Yes	No	Yes
Mariah	Yes	Yes	Yes	No



1. Mariah is in computer class with ____________________ and ____________________.
2. ______________________ is in reading with ______________________ and ______________________.
3. ______________________ and ____________________ and ____________________ and ____________________ have two classes together.
4. Devon has reading while Jules has ______________________.
5. ______________________ and ______________________ might work together on a book report.
6. Jules could telephone ______________________ if he forgot the math assignment.
7. Devon could telephone ______________________ or ____________________ if he forgot the reading assignment.
8. During the first period, Brittany has ____________________________.
9. If Mariah was sick, ______________________ might be able to bring her the math assignment.
10. Mariah and Brittany are best friends. They are in the same class during ______________________.

Name: ____ **Date:** ______________________



What's your rush? Reread each statement before you make a decision.

Directions: *Read Prissy's opinions. Then go back and circle a word or words in each statement that signals an opinion.*



1. "I am a fine-looking poodle."
2. "I consider my haircut to be very attractive."
3. "I feel that I have charming manners."
4. "I do not believe in sleeping outside."
5. "In my opinion, poodles sleep in the house only."
6. "It is my judgment that I am highly intelligent."
7. "In my view, everyone should own a poodle."
8. "I think poodles are terrific canine companions."
9. "Poodles should be named the national dog."

Now rewrite these opinions so that they state a fact—something that can be proven true or could actually happen.

10. "Poodles must eat only the best dog food."

____

____

11. "I think that digging in the dirt is not proper for poodles."

____

____

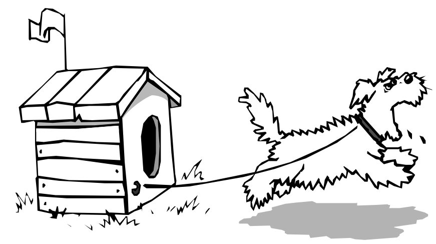


Name: __________________________ **Date:** ________________



Don't sweat this! Just keep asking yourself—which part of the sentence can't be true?

Directions: *Read each sentence. Use a yellow crayon or highlighter pen to highlight the exaggeration.*



1. Everyone in the county can hear my dog bark.
2. Bennie was such a liar that he might as well have had a flashing sign on his head that said "I lie, I lie."
3. Feeling confident that even a jet couldn't catch up with him, Rasheed slowed his pace in the bicycle race.
4. Mom's eyes just about popped out of her head when she saw the gecko scamper across the floor.
5. The lion roared loud enough to make the leaves fall off the trees.
6. I have so much homework tonight that it will take me several years to get it done.
7. Terra nearly died laughing when her neighbor put holiday lights on his garbage cans.
8. That guy has feet as big as a boat, but he sure can play basketball better than anyone I know.
9. If Grandma packs a tomato sandwich in my lunch one more time, I'll never smile again.
10. It was said that John Henry could hammer faster than lightning.
11. The principal was boiling mad when he found out that the crosswalk guard was wearing a cow costume.
12. John built the campfire so hot that it caused the water in a nearby lake to vaporize.

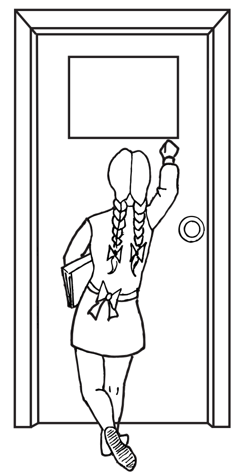


Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________



If you like movies, try this. As you read the story, make a picture in your head of what's happening.

Directions: *Read the story and the sentences below it. Write an R if it is something that really happened in the story. Write an I if it is something Mindy imagined.*



Today was Mindy's big chance. Her teacher asked her to knock on the door of the teachers' room and deliver a note to the coach. Mindy had never seen the inside of the teachers' room, but she had plenty of notions about it. All the teachers went in there with coffee mugs, so she was sure there was a six-foot-high coffee pot in that room. Last week she saw a bunch of teachers taking pies, cakes, and cookies in there. Maybe the teachers were doing science experiments with foods containing sugar. The other weird thing Mindy noticed was that there was always laughing and music coming from that room. But when the bell rang and teachers came out, they weren't chuckling. That made Mindy wonder if teachers turn into completely different creatures when they enter their private room. She bet they even had passwords. Mindy walked up to the door and held her breath as she prepared to knock. Just then, the coach walked up behind her and said, "Looking for me?" Darn! Now she'd never know the truth.

____ 1. Mindy had many notions about the teachers' room.

____ 2. Teachers turn into different creatures in the teachers' room.

____ 3. Many teachers go into the room with coffee mugs.

____ 4. There is laughing going on in the teachers' room.

____ 5. The teachers have a six-foot-high coffee pot.

____ 6. The teachers have passwords to get into the room.

____ 7. Teachers take goodies into the teachers' room.

____ 8. Weird science is going on in the teachers' room.

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________



Here's a way to guarantee a good job. Read the whole flyer once without stopping. Then do the task.

Directions: *Read the flyer for the Children's Museum. Draw a line through any details that do not belong on it.*



Palo Verde Children's Museum

A Place to Learn and Play–many jobs available now

Location

1020 Old Wagon Trail,
Tucson, AZ

- Just south of the airport
- Free delivery available

Hours

September – May
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily

- Set your watch
- Closed on Christmas

Groups

School groups are welcome on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.
The museum is also available to rent for birthday parties.
Cakes with whipped cream frosting are better.
Please call 555-9873 to reserve your date for a group.

Admission

Children under 12	$2.00
Adults	$3.00
Matinee movie	$5.00

Gift Shop and Snack Bar

- Visit a college that looks exciting
- Lots of books, games, and puzzles
- You'll love our yogurt sundae bar!

The museum is totally accessible to people with disabilities.
Visit us on the world wide web to place your order.
Service animals are welcome.
The wild squirrels that live on the roof need to be left alone.
Don't miss our famous mini volcano park!
We are number 1 in clean used cars!

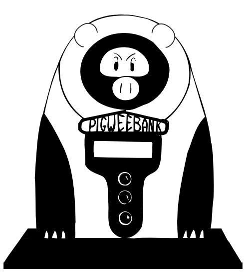
Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Oh, I probably should remind you...each time you read a detail, ask yourself if it relates to the topic.

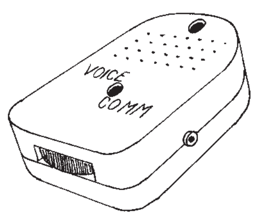
Directions: *Write yes if the detail belongs in the paragraph on that topic. Write no if it does not.*

Paragraph 1 topic: **A gadget that is an entertaining and unusual coin bank.**



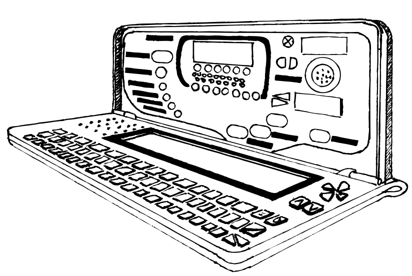
______ 1. The bank is in the shape of a cute pig.
______ 2. It counts coins and automatically displays the total.
______ 3. Banks charge you for their services.
______ 4. The batteries will need to be replaced soon.
______ 5. The bank is also an alarm clock.
______ 6. It sleeps, snores, and awakens you with funny songs.

Paragraph 2 topic: **A gadget that can turn any electrical device in your home on and off with the sound of your voice.**



______ 1. All you do is say the name of the device you want on or off.
______ 2. It works with anyone's voice.
______ 3. Going jogging has now been made easier.
______ 4. It is very easy to use.
______ 5. You will hear better using this device.
______ 6. This is a great tool for someone with a disability.

Paragraph 3 topic: **A gadget that can translate words into another language.**



______ 1. It can translate words into nine different languages.
______ 2. This is a gardener's dream come true.
______ 3. It contains a data bank of 6,000 words.
______ 4. You will never be late when you use this gadget.
______ 5. It is a handy tool for a world traveler or a student.
______ 6. You can use it to call home from anywhere in the world.

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________

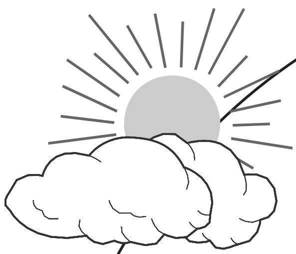
As you read, keep your eyes out for signal words that tell order. It's as easy as 1, 2, 3!

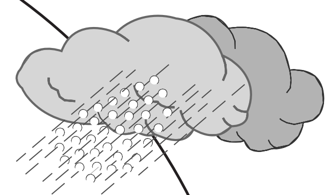


Directions: *Read about the water cycle. Then write phrases to show the sequence of the cycle.*

Precipitation

Now the water vapor gathers into clouds and falls back to the earth. Precipitation can be rain, snow, sleet, or hail.





1. ______________________________
____
____

2. ______________________________
____
____

3. ______________________________
____
____

4. ______________________________
____
____

Evaporation

Next, stored water evaporates. The water changes into water vapor, a gas. The gas rises into the atmosphere.

Runoff

This is the last step. Precipitation fills ocean, rivers, and lakes. Water is stored again.





Storage

The water cycle starts here. Billions of gallons of water are stored on the earth in oceans, rivers, and lakes.

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Need a tip? Try this. Read the questions first. Then read the story.

Directions: *Read the story and answer the questions.*

Ziggy is a dog, but not just any dog. She is a service dog for someone with a disability. Her training started when she was just seven weeks old. First, she went to live with someone called a puppy raiser. The puppy raiser taught Ziggy how to get along with others and obey basic commands. She also made sure Ziggy grew up healthy and strong. Ziggy stayed with her puppy raiser until she was 1½ years old. Then it was off to school. Ziggy left the puppy raiser's home and was taken to a training center where she learned many advanced skills for assisting people, such as opening doors, turning on a light switch, and other helpful tasks. It took Ziggy eight months to finish the advanced training, but learning new things was fun. Soon graduation day came and it was time to meet her new owner. However, this special dog was not finished with school just yet. Ziggy and her new owner were now ready for team training—a special two-week class in which they learned to work together. When that was completed, Ziggy was fully ready to become a loyal friend and constant companion for someone who really loved and needed her.



1. At the beginning of the story, what happened to Ziggy? ______________________________

   ____

   ____

2. In the middle of the story, what kind of challenge did Ziggy face? ______________________

   ____

   ____

3. At the end of the story, how had Ziggy's life changed? ______________________________

   ____

   ____

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________

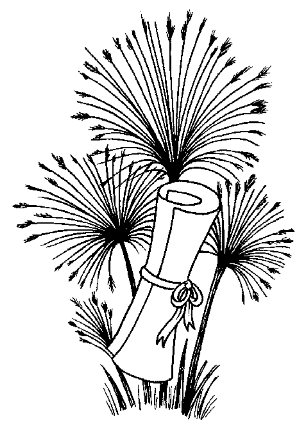


Directions: *Number the phrases to show the order. Then use the phrases to write a short summary that tells how papyrus was made into paper.*

The Paper Plant

Ancient Egyptians used the papyrus plant for making things such as sandals, boxes, and ropes. However, the plant was mainly used for making paper. The stem of the plant was first peeled to reveal the pith, or core. After that, the pith was thinly sliced. Slices were laid out next to each other lengthwise. Next, other slices were laid crosswise on top of those. Later the whole piece was moistened with water. Then it was pressed and dried. The final step was to use a piece of ivory to rub the papyrus paper smooth. The Egyptians wrote poetry and verse on the paper.

____ slices laid out lengthwise
____ paper was rubbed smooth
____ whole piece was pressed and dried
____ pith was sliced
____ stem was peeled
____ more slices were laid crosswise
____ whole piece was moistened



____

____

____

____

____

____

____

____

Name: ____________________ **Date:** ____________________



Here's a trick that works. As you read, focus on remembering as many details as you can.

Directions: *Number the events in the order they happened in the story.*

More Wood—A Funny Fable

Winter was on its way, and the skunks went to their leader to seek his advise on how cold it would be. Being a new and young leader, he didn't know the ways the leaders before him had forecasted the weather. He gazed at the sky, but he couldn't tell. So to be safe, he told his group that it was going to be very cold and to collect wood for the fireplaces in their dens.

A few days later, an idea hit him. He flipped out his cellular phone and called the local weather fox. "How cold will it be this winter?" the skunk asked. "Very cold," the fox replied. So the leader went back to his group and told them to collect more wood.

Two weeks later, he called the weather fox and asked the same question. "Very, very, cold," was the reply. The leader told his group to collect still more wood.

Three weeks later, the leader made a final call to the fox. "Are you really sure about the cold winter?" he asked.

"You bet," quipped the fox. "It's going to be a real bone chiller."

"Just how do you know this?" the skunk probed.

The fox explained, "Well, you know all those skunks? They're stocking up on wood like you wouldn't believe."

The moral: *Don't rely on the word of a foxy weather forecaster.*

____ Two weeks later, the leader called the fox again.

____ The skunks went to their leader for advice.

____ The leader got an idea and phoned the weather fox.

____ The fox said it was going to be very, very cold.

____ The leader looked at the sky.

____ The leader made his final phone call.

____ The leader asked the fox how he knew about the weather.

____ The leader didn't know what to say, so he told the group to collect wood.



Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



You see, it's just like math. Add up all supporting details and you get the main idea, or topic.

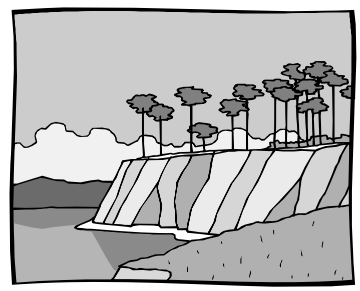
Directions: *Read the supporting details. Then, circle the number of the best topic sentence and write it on the lines.*

Topic sentence:

____

____

It happens when rock and soil break down in small pieces and then move down a hill, a cliff, or a mountain. Erosion can be caused by natural forces such as wind, rain, or temperature. This gradual wearing away of the earth can damage property, too. If your home is built on a hill that is eroding, then the house may be in danger of sliding down the hill, as well. Some people plant grass and trees on their hillside land so that the plants' strong root systems will hold the earth in place. Other people lay a special netting over the soil.



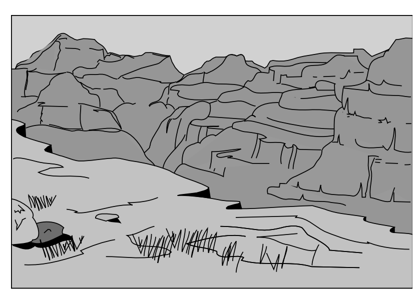
1. Erosion causes a muddy mess.
2. Erosion affects the earth and people.
3. People have found ways to battle erosion.

Topic sentence:

____

____

This huge, gaping canyon in northwestern Arizona stretches across the land for 200 miles and is more than 5,000 feet deep. The Colorado River formed this wonder of the world. Its waters gradually cut the earth and stone away and downward to create a steep, carved canyon. This did not happen overnight, however. The process started about six million years ago.



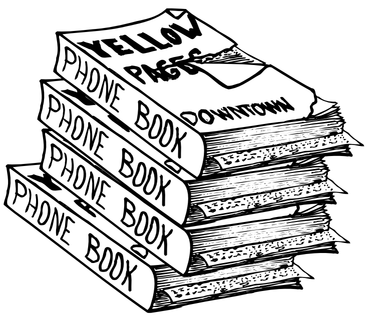
4. The Grand Canyon is a National Park.
5. There is no other place on Earth like the Grand Canyon.
6. The Grand Canyon is a magnificent example of erosion.

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ________________



Grab a partner and talk about what you know about recycling before you begin this page.

Directions: *Read the paragraph and then underline the topic sentence. Next read the sentences below the paragraph. Write D if the sentence tells about detail in the paragraph. Write T if the sentence expresses the same idea as the topic sentence. (Hint: you will have one T sentence only.)*



Each year, countless numbers of old phone books get recycled into new phone books. Here's how that happens. People take their old phone books to drop-off locations at stores and supermarkets. The collected books are transported to a warehouse. Here the old phone books are loaded onto trucks and trains to be shipped to a recycling paper mill. The paper mill processes millions of pounds of old phone books into pulp, a mushy mixture like oatmeal. Next, the pulp is made into recycled paper. Huge rolls of yellow and white recycled paper are then shipped to printers, who print phone books for the new year. Finally, new phone books are delivered to homes and businesses. Next year the cycle starts all over again.

____ 1. The paper mill processes the old phone books into pulp.

____ 2. Trucks and trains take the old phone books to the paper mill.

____ 3. People drop off their old phone books to be recycled.

____ 4. Huge numbers of old phone books get recycled each year.

____ 5. Recycled paper is shipped to phone book printers.

____ 6. New phone books are delivered throughout the community.



Name: ____________________ **Date:** ____________



This will be a cinch if you just look for sentences that support, or tell more, about the topic sentence.

Directions: *Circle the letters of two sentences that support the topic sentence.*



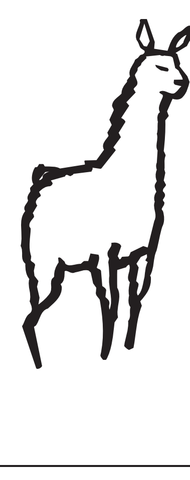
1. The Andes are a huge chain of mountains.
   a. Railroads run through the mountain passes.
   b. They run along most of the western edge of South America.
   c. This huge mountain chain is about 4,500 miles long.

2. The Andes mountains are rich in mineral deposits.
   a. Gold and silver are the most precious minerals mined there.
   b. The snow line starts at 4,000 feet.
   c. Lead, iron ore, and petroleum can be found there also.

3. Many volcanoes sit within the Andes mountains.
   a. Snow covers the top of the volcano.
   b. Nevado de Tolima is a dormant, or sleeping, volcano.
   c. Cotopaxi in Ecuador is the highest active volcano in the world.

4. Unusual animals live in the Andes of South America.
   a. Llamas are well suited for mountain life.
   b. Bees are busy insects no matter where in the world they live.
   c. The condor is a large Andean bird.

5. These mountains consist of mostly sedimentary rocks.
   a. Shale and sandstone are common sedimentary rocks.
   b. Sedimentary rocks have visible layers.
   c. Fossils provide an interesting glimpse of the past.



Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________



So you think you know it all? Then you know to look back in the paragraph to find the answer.

Directions: *Read the paragraph. Then look at the list of details. Write yes if the phrase is a detail mentioned in one of the supporting sentences in the paragraph. Write no if it is not.*

You might think the safest place to be is at home, but it can contain many hazards. Here are ways to increase your home safety net. Check any stairs or steps. Nothing should ever touch them, except feet, of course. Put away toys, laundry, or any other clutter on or around steps and stairs so you don't trip or fall on them. Use a sturdy step-stool instead of climbing on a chair, counter, or table. Creative climbing can result in serious injuries if the thing on which you are climbing collapses. Be aware of what you're wearing in the kitchen. Long, loose sleeves and bulky bathrobes are a no-no around stoves. You could catch fire when you reach across a burner in one of these outfits. Short or close-fitting sleeves are the safest bet. And speaking of stoves, don't leave yours alone when something is cooking. A fire could occur when you are not there to keep it company. And lastly, have an adult help you check your home's smoke detectors every month. You need to be sure the batteries and the detector unit are both on the job.

_____ 1. home hazards

_____ 2. what should touch stairs

_____ 3. placing furniture around windows

_____ 4. how to climb safely

_____ 5. good things to wear in the kitchen

_____ 6. the need to bolt furniture to the wall

_____ 7. why you need to watch what is cooking on the stove

_____ 8. babies and the bathtub

_____ 9. monthly smoke detector checks

_____ 10. extension cords



Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________________



Attention, earthling! Remember that supporting details can be the 5w's about the main idea.

Directions: *Look for the main idea and supporting details as you read the story. Then write phrases to describe them below.*



Bullies. Every school has them, but my school is different. It has an alien bully. That's right—an alien from the planet Nasty. This jerk shows up every day at recess. It teases, calls names, shoves, and threatens to turn kids into molecules or worse. Sometimes it even leaves cruel notes in kids' backpacks or starts vicious rumors about them. The weird thing is that our teachers can't see or hear the brute. That means we kids are left to deal with this problem child from space all by ourselves. The best thing is just to try to keep away from it. My friend Robbie and I use the "buddy system" and stay together at recess. That works pretty well. But one day last week, Robbie was sick and I was left to fend for myself. Sure enough, it spotted me. "Hey," it sneered, "you're the kid I am going to vaporize today." That did it. I'd had enough. I faced the little green mean machine and yelled as loud as I possibly could, "Keep away from me!" Well, what would you do?

✏ **Main Idea:**

____

✏ **Supporting Details:**

1. ____

2. ____

3. ____

4. ____

5. ____

6. ____

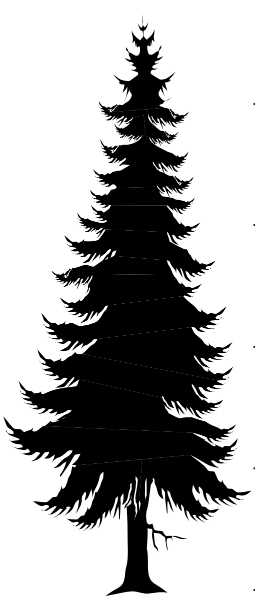
Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Hey, read the paragraph first. Then go back and scan it with your finger to spot the details you need to find. Good readers use this trick all the time.

Directions: *Read the paragraph. Then write a phrase describing the event next to the year it occurred.*

Alaska is a dramatic state. It is a wild and rugged place. Several events in its history are also dramatic. The United States purchased Alaska from Russia in 1867 for $7,200,000. In 1896 gold was discovered in Alaska, and people from all over the world rushed there hoping to strike it rich. In 1942, the Alaskan Highway was built. This 1,422-mile highway was built by the U.S. military in just nine months. On January 3, 1959, the territory of Alaska officially became the 49th state of the United States. Another great, but tragic event occurred on March 27, 1964. A powerful earthquake that measured between 8.2 and 8.4 on the Richter scale rocked the south-central part of the new state. Riches were discovered again in Alaska in 1968 when a large oil deposit was found in the Prudhoe Bay area. In 1977, a huge pipeline was completed to carry the oil 800 miles south to the town of Valdez. There it was loaded onto tanker ships and transported worldwide. By 1985, a whopping 4 billion barrels of oil had been pumped from the Prudhoe Bay fields. Tragedy stuck Alaska again in 1989. A supertanker spilled 10 million gallons of oil into the waters of Prince William Sound, creating the worst oil spill in U.S. history.



1959 ______________________________

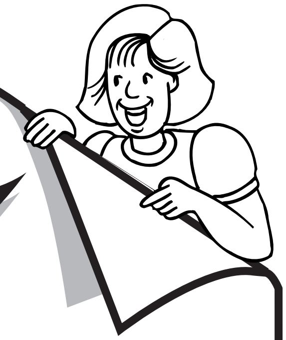
1977 ______________________________

1896 ______________________________

1964 ______________________________

1968 ______________________________

Name: ____________________ **Date:** ____________



Make mental images as you read the set of words.
Get the picture?

Directions: *Write an A next to the sentence that describes how the words are alike. Write a D next to the sentence that describes a way the words are different.*

1. nail and thumbtack

____ They hold or fasten things.

____ You have to hammer a nail.

2. bus and train

____ Only a train runs on tracks.

____ They are transportation.

3. penny and nickel

____ A nickel is worth more.

____ They are money.

4. milk and orange juice

____They are beverages.

____ Milk doesn't come from a fruit.

5. meow and bark

____ A dog can't meow.

____ They are sounds made by animals.

6. lake and ocean

____They are bodies of water.

____ No lake is as big as an ocean.

7. spoon and fork

____ A spoon works better with liquids.

____ They are utensils.

8. diamond and ruby

____ A ruby is red.

____ They are gems.

9. spaghetti and macaroni

____ They are pasta.

____ Spaghetti is long and thin.

10. computer and TV

____ They both have screens.

____ A TV has different channels.

11. lungs and heart

____A heart beats.

____They are body organs.

12. pen and pencil

____They are used to write.

____ Only a pen uses ink.

13. dollar and check

____ A dollar is cash.

____ They are forms of money.

14. staple and paper clip

____They fasten paper.

____ You need a stapler to staple paper.

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ______________



This will only be a cinch if you make a picture in your mind of the two objects.

Directions: *Read the question. Put a checkmark (✔) next to any answer that is correct. There may be more than one correct answer.*

1. How are a hamburger and a hotdog alike?
   ____ a. They are both meat. ____ b. They are both the same shape.
   ____ c. They are both sweet. ____ d. They are both eaten on a bun.

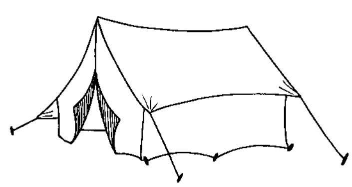
2. How are a tree and a bush alike?
   ____ a. They are the same size. ____ b. They both have leaves.
   ____ c. They are both plants. ____ d. They both have roots.

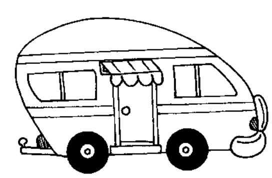
3. How are a boat and a raft alike?
   ____ a. They carry people. ____ b. They both use gas.
   ____ c. They both are flat. ____ d. They are watercraft.

4. How are gelatin and pudding alike?
   ____ a. They are both sweet. ____ b. They are both soft.
   ____ c. They are both clear. ____ d. They are both foods.

5. How are a ring and a glove alike?
   ____ a. They are both jewelry. ____ b. They are the same size.
   ____ c. They are both clothing. ____ d. They are worn on your hands.

Write two ways a tent and trailer are alike.
Then write two ways they are different.





Alike

1.____

2. ____

Different

1.____

2. ____

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________



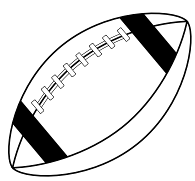
It's either sink or skim here. Read the text once and then go back and skim it again to find the answers you need. If you don't, you'll sink.

Directions: *Read the paragraphs. Then write phrases to compare and contrast the two games.*



A soccer ball is black and white. It is round and covered with leather.

The modern game of soccer began in the 19th century in England. Soccer is a ball game played by two teams of 11 players. The game is played on a field that is 100 to 130 yards long. At each end of the field are two vertical 8-foot goalposts with a crossbar. The object of the game is to move the ball into the opponent's goal. Players can kick the ball or hit it with their forehead, but they may not use their hands. Games consist of two 45-minutes halves. Players wear shin guards to protect their legs, but no other protective equipment is allowed. Soccer is a very popular sport.



A football is brown and covered with leather. It has an unusual shape.

A form of football was played in ancient and medieval times, but this popular sport began in England during the 12th century. A football field is 120 yards long. Near the end of each side of the field are two 10-foot upright goalposts topped with a crossbar and two more vertical posts. Football is played by two teams of 11 players. Each team tries to move the ball down the field and into the opponent's goal. Players may carry, throw, or kick the ball. A game consists of four 15-minute quarters. Players wear special padding all over their body and helmets with guards that cover their face.

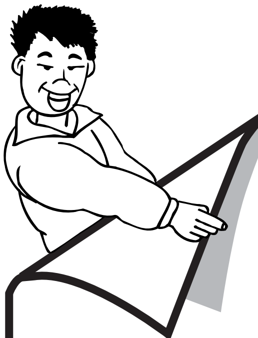
Compare - Alike

1. ______________________________
2. ______________________________
3. ______________________________
4. ______________________________

Contrast - Different

1. ______________________________
2. ______________________________
3. ______________________________
4. ______________________________

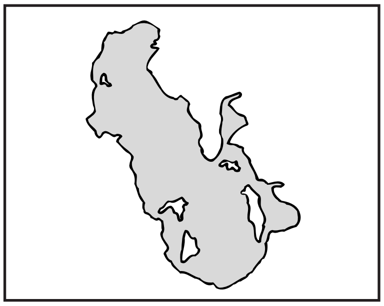
Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



To do this job, scan the text with your finger to quickly spot the information you are looking for. I'm telling you, this really works!

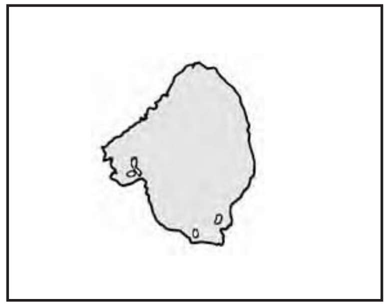
Directions: *Read the information and then complete the chart.*

Great Salt Lake



Just as its name implies, the Great Salt Lake, in Utah is a saltwater lake. In fact, it is eight times saltier than the ocean. Three rivers flow into the lake—the Bear, the Weber, and the Jordan. The size of this huge lake keeps changing because it has no outlets to drain the water away. In 1962, the lake was 969 square miles. In the early 1980s it grew to 2,300 square miles. Only brine shrimp and algae can live in its salty waters, but many species of birds live nearby.

Lake Okeechobee



Lake Okeechobee in southern Florida is the third largest lake in the United States. This freshwater lake covers an area of 663 square miles. Water from the Kissimme River fills this big lake, but its depth is very shallow—ranging from only 7 to 20 feet deep. The lake is home to many kinds of wildlife, including largemouth bass and other fish, deer, turkey, wild boar, and ducks.

	Great Salt Lake	Lake Okeechobee
Location		
Size (Area)		
Wildlife		
Water Source		
Type of Water		

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Give this a try. Preview, or look over, the whole page before you begin.

Directions: *Read the information. Write **yes** or **no** on the grid.*

The Stomach

The stomach is an organ of the digestive system. It is located in your abdomen. Your stomach works automatically. The food that you eat is mixed together with the gastric juices found inside your stomach. This causes the food to be broken down. When your stomach is empty, you may get pains called hunger pangs.

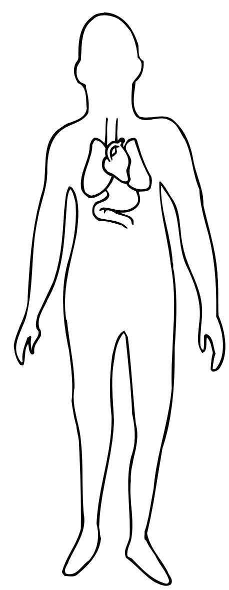
The Lungs

You have a pair of lungs located in your chest cavity. These organs are used for breathing. The lungs work continuously to move air in and out of your body. This is an automatic activity controlled by the brain.

The Heart

The heart is located in your chest cavity. This fist-size organ pumps blood through your body. Your heart beats automatically.

	Stomach	Heart	Lungs
• an organ			
• hunger pangs			
• pumps blood			
• moves air			
• in the chest cavity			
• digests food			
• in the abdomen			
• a pair			
• automatic			
• heartbeat			
• gastric juices			
• size of a fist			



Use the chart to answer the questions.

How is your stomach different from your lungs? ______________________________

____

____

How are your lungs different from your heart? ______________________________

____

____

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ______________



When you read this story, imagine how both boys are the same (compare) and different (contrast).

Directions: *Read the paragraph and then compare and contrast the boys.*

Tad Potter and Brent Potter are cousins. Both of them are redheads. They are also both fourth graders and on the same soccer team. But when it comes to math, they are different kids. Why? Because Brent is a math whiz. He does truly amazing things with numbers. For example, he walks up to the checkout counter at the music store with his purchases already totaled in his head, including tax. Brent can do all the problems in the eighth-grade math book and get them correct. On the other hand, Tad knows he will never be able to brag about his ability with numbers the way Brent can. He is fairly good at math, but only because he works at it. In class, he pays attention, asks questions, and keeps trying.



Compare. *Check (✔) the ways they are the same.*

____ They are members of the same family.
____ They both have freckles.
____ Tad and Brent are cousins.
____ They are both fourth graders.
____ They both wear the same size soccer shoes.



Contrast. *Check (✔) how the boys are different.*

____ Brent is a math whiz, but Tad is not.
____ Tad works hard in math class, but Brent does not need to do so.
____ Tad can do any kind of mental math well, but Brent cannot.
____ Brent can truly brag about his math skills, but Tad cannot.
____ Brent can work at a higher grade level in math than Tad can.

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



This is a snap! Just remember cause is the reason and effect is what happens.

Directions: *Look back in the paragraph to find the number of the reason. Write the number of the reason and its effect.*

It has been said that laughter is the best medicine. Well, it may be true. Doctors have found that laughter seems to have a positive effect on your body, mind, and mood. Here's some good reasons to "yuck it up."

1. Laughing makes your heart beat a little faster, and that strengthens it.
2. Having a good chuckle works your abdominal muscles.
3. People who laugh more may not get ill as often.
4. When you laugh, you feel less angry.
5. A good belly laugh will take away stress.
6. Giggling flexes your cheeks, and that gives them a little workout.
7. A cheerful person makes other people feel happy too.



Cause (If this happens)	**Effect** (then this may happen)
____ When you laugh,	______________________
____ A cheerful person	______________________
____ Giggling flexes your cheeks	______________________
____ A good belly laugh	______________________
____ People who laugh more	______________________
____ Having a good chuckle	______________________
____ Laughing makes your heart beat a little faster	______________________

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ____________



Ready—read the title. Set—predict what the story will be about. Go—now read.

Directions: *Read the news story and complete the chart.*

Cops Flush Out School Cafeteria Thief

Maxwell Hill—A man was nabbed by police at Barker School early Monday morning when he attempted to rob the school cafeteria. Students were not at school at the time, so classes were not disturbed, and no one was injured.

Arrested was a man known only as Sloppy Joe. The situation began when the school janitor arrived at work. He heard what sounded like burping coming from the cafeteria's kitchen and went to investigate. He spotted the intruder and called 911. When the police got to the scene, they found the man wolfing down the school's most popular dish, chili surprise. His pockets were also stuffed full of frozen fish fingers.

Sloppy Joe was arrested and charged with trespassing on school grounds and attempting to be a glutton. The school principal says that he will beef up security in the cafeteria area.

Cause (Action)	Effect (Reaction)
1. Because the janitor heard a noise,	
2. When the janitor spotted the man,	
3. This happened early in the morning, so	
4. Because Sloppy Joe was trespassing on school grounds,	

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________

Excuse me! Look for words that are signals for cause and effect like because, so, or since.



Directions: *Read the paragraph and complete the chart.*

The Dust Bowl

By the 1930s, many farmers had moved to the Great Plains. They planted wheat and raised cattle. The cattle ate the prairie grasses, and that exposed the soil. The farmers planted wheat on the land, but the roots of the wheat did not hold the soil together well. Then a long drought, or time without rain, occurred. The soil dried into a fine, loose dust. Storm winds blew, and the skies filled with billowing, black clouds of dust. The choking dust piled up against people's homes and barns. One storm even carried the dust as far east as the Atlantic Ocean. Year after year, the dust kept blowing. Soon the Great Plains became known as the Dust Bowl. The terrible drought and dust ruined many farms, so families were forced to pack up and leave. During that time, many thousands of people left the Dust Bowl and moved to places like California and Idaho.



Cause (Action)	Effect (Reaction)
1. The cattle ate the grass, so	____________________
2. The wheat had poor roots, so	____________________
3. Because ____________________	the soil became fine dust.
4. Because ____________________	the skies filled with dust clouds.
5. The dust storms ruined farms, so	____________________ ____________________

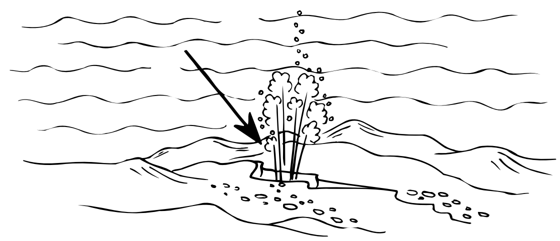
Name: ____________________ **Date:** ____________________



Be on the lookout for words that help you figure out the effect.

Directions: *Write the correct phrase to finish the sentence so that it makes sense. Then circle one word in each sentence that is a signal, introducing words that tell an effect, or what happened.*

— as a result, hot, murky water shoots upward from the ocean floor.
— consequently, the vent begins to form.
— so scientists were extremely surprised to see this.
— when they discovered hydrothermal, or hot-water vents.
— then it is super-heated.



1. Scientists were studying the ocean floor ______________________________
____
____.

2. Cold water leaks into deep cracks in the ocean floor and ____________________
____
____.

3. Next, the cold water hits hot liquid rock, or magma, deep in the earth and _______
____
____.

4. Super-heated water quickly rises to the top of the vent and __________________
____
____.

5. An oasis of sea life lives near the vents, where temperatures can reach 660° F, _____
____
____.

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________



Hey smart reader! You can breeze through this activity because the information is organized in a handy chart.

Directions: *First, study the chart. Then as you answer each question, look back and study the chart again.*

What's Your Preference?

Three kids rated their preferences about important features of a theme park. They gave scores of 1 to 7, with 7 being the most important and 1 being the least important.

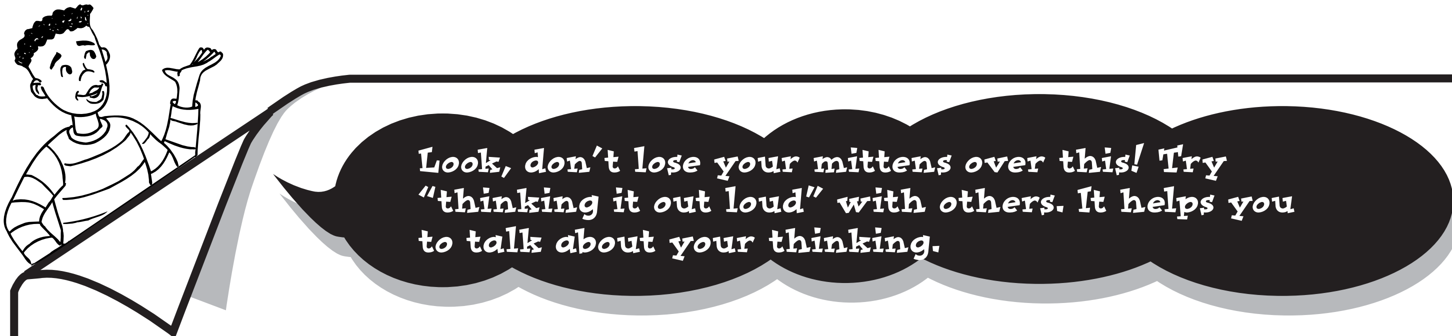


Features	Darren	Tessa	Renaldo
Water rides	7	1	6
Gift shop	1	6	2
Cost to get in	5	5	5
Animals	3	7	1
Snacks	4	3	4
Variety	2	4	7
Game arcades	6	2	3

Complete the sentences.

1. What is Darren's least favorite thing to do? ________________________________.
2. ______________________ would probably be most excited about going to a zoo.
3. Only _______________ and _______________ feel the same about ________________.
4. ____________________ would most probably like to go to a park called "Wild River."
5. A variety of activities is most important to ________________________________.
6. After animals, Tessa thinks that ______________________________ is most important.
7. After water rides, _________________ thinks ______________________ are lots of fun.
8. Renaldo would probably not be too excited about going to a ___________________.
9. Tessa probably couldn't care less about ________________________________.
10. All three kids feel pretty much the same about ______________________________.

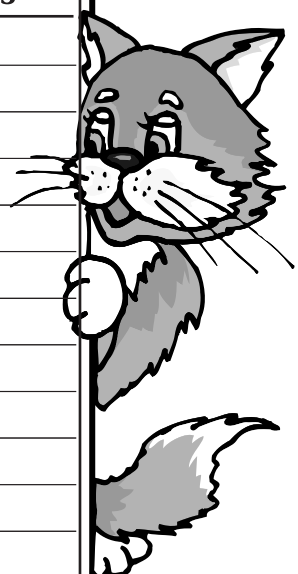
Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________



Directions: *Use the results of the poll to figure out facts or to draw conclusions. Write true, false, or unknown next to the statements below.*

What is the coolest name for a cat?

Name	Results
Ballofur	17
Feline Dion	12
Claw-dia	10
See-A-Tea	5
Purrberry	17
Edward Scissorclaws	23
Catpachino	18
Velcro	9
Purrkins	21
Shed-alot	14
Litter Bug	20
Furlong	16



_______________ 1. The author of this poll was trying to find out what people thought about some names for cats.

_______________ 2. The author of the poll was trying to find a name for his black cat.

_______________ 3. More than 15 people voted in this poll.

_______________ 4. Edward Scissorclaws was the winner.

_______________ 5. The name See-A-Tea didn't get a lot of votes because people didn't understand it.

_______________ 6. Purrkins came in third.

_______________ 7. Two names tied.

_______________ 8. Litter Bug was a very popular choice.

_______________ 9. There is a big difference between the votes for Ballofur and Furlong.

_______________ 10. People thought that Velcro would be a better name for a dog.

_______________ 11. The name Claw-dia came in third to last.

_______________ 12. People liked participating this poll.

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________



You're a smart reader, right? Then you know that one trick that good readers use is to make a mental picture as they read.

Directions: *Read the clues. Write the answer to the questions.*

movie theater	garbage collection	windy
tic tac toe	traffic accident	the bank
falling star	dentist's office	soccer

1. Hanna is X. Jon is O. They make their marks on a grid. What game are they playing? ______________________________
2. The trees are bending. The flag is waving. I have to hold on to my hat. What kind of weather is it? ______________________________
3. Mia filled out a deposit slip. Then she gave it and her garage sale money to the teller. Where was she? ______________________________
4. Two cars were stopped in the middle of the road. A police car was parked nearby. Soon a tow truck showed up. What happened here? ______________________________
5. Stewart bought a ticket. He also bought some popcorn and chocolate candy. It was hard to find a seat in the dark. Where was he? ______________________________
6. Jules put on shorts and a t-shirt. She also strapped on shin guards. She picked up her black and white ball. What was she going to play? ______________________________
7. Two big bags sat by the curb. A big truck drove up. Two men got out and threw the bags into the truck. Then the truck moved on. What was happening? ______________________________
8. We looked up at the night sky. Suddenly we saw a bright streak across the sky. Then it disappeared. What was happening? ______________________________
9. Ian walked into the office that was full of shiny equipment. He hopped up on the motorized chair. Then a nice woman put a paper bib around his neck. Where was he? ______________________________

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ______________



Information alert! When you infer, you get clues from something that is said to come up with an idea that is not said.

Directions: *Find a copy of this classic fairy tale. Then read each sentence below. Write **yes** if the sentence is something you can infer from clues in the story. Write **no** if it is not.*

_____ 1. Cinderella felt that she was not as loved as her stepsisters.

_____ 2. She didn't mind scrubbing floors because she liked the smell of soap.

_____ 3. A servant is someone who works for others.

_____ 4. The prince was having trouble finding a suitable wife.

_____ 5. The invitation to the ball was sent to Cinderella's stepsisters by mistake.

_____ 6. The fairy godmother cared about Cinderella.

_____ 7. The fairy godmother's wand had magical powers.

_____ 8. Glass slippers were probably made in another country.

_____ 9. A coach made from a pumpkin was pretty smelly.

_____ 10. The guests at the ball did not enjoy the food.

_____ 11. The clocks in the kingdom were always on time.

_____ 12. The prince was confused about why Cinderella left so quickly.

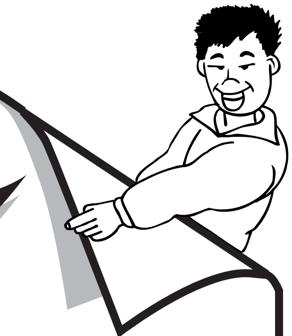
_____ 13. The prince was a determined person.

_____ 14. Cinderella was a determined person, also.

_____ 15. The story had a happy ending, but not all characters were happy.



Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ______________



Hey, don't expect answers to always just pop out at you. Sometimes you have to infer, or figure out, something not printed on the page.

Directions: *The index to the yellow pages in a telephone book tells you what pages to look at if you want to find certain things. Use the index to answer the questions.*

Index—Your Yellow Pages Guide

On what page would you look if you needed to call someone because . . .

____ 1. you were having a home made pizza party for 28 kids?

____ 2. you want to buy Grandpa Bass a birthday present that has something to do with his last name?

____ 3. your mom told you to do something about your ferret, which is running loose in the house?

____ 4. your dad ordered you to remove the graffiti that your best friend, Milton, put on the side of your garage because he thought he was a cool artist?

____ 5. none of your collection of superhero watches work?

____ 6. you need to decorate a cake for your dog's birthday?

____ 7. you sprained your ankle jumping off your bed?

____ 8. you don't want to be recognized at the mall?

____ 9. you think you need to visit an island to get away from your baby sister?

____ 10. you are sick and tired of walking 23 blocks to school?



Name: ________________________ **Date:** ____________

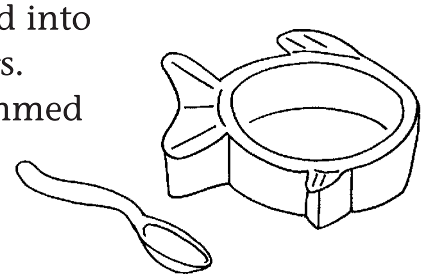


Read carefully. You've got to draw a conclusion from information that is not given to you, so put on your thinking cap.

Directions: *Read the story. Then answer the questions. Write the words from the story that helped you figure out the answer.*

Conner searched the whole house twice looking for Mozart, but he was nowhere to be found. He wasn't under the bed or behind the recliner. He wasn't playing with his catnip toy in the basement either. Conner called and called for Mozart. Nothing. He banged Mozart's fish-shaped food dish with a spoon. That usually worked, but still nothing.

"Oh no," Conner thought, "what if he got out?" He raced into his room, threw open the closet, and grabbed his sneakers. With his heart pounding, he flounced on his bed and jammed his feet into the shoes. As he stood ready to run, he glanced at the closet. There in the open doorway was Mozart yawning and stretching. So that's where he was!



1. What is Mozart? ____________________

   Clue from the story: ____________________

2. Is Mozart a female or male? ____________________

   Clue from the story: ____________________

3. How did Conner feel when he thought Mozart got out? ____________________

   Clue from the story: ____________________

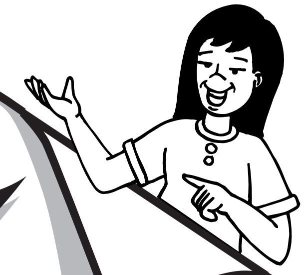
4. Where was Mozart? ____________________

   Clue from the story: ____________________

5. What was Mozart doing there? ____________________

   Clue from the story: ____________________

Name: ____________________ **Date:** ____________________



Let me remind you. Infer means to draw a conclusion based on information that is not stated.

Directions: *Amanda is writing a report for her social studies class. She chose "quilting" as her topic. Look at the facts Amanda gathered. Then read the sentences below. Write **yes** if the sentence is something you can infer from the information. Write **no** if it is not.*

Ancient Times

- Quilts originated in ancient times.
- Soldiers wore straw-filled quilted shirts.
- Horsemen wore quilted shirts under their armor.
- Quilts were made of materials that didn't last.

Pioneer America

- Pioneer women spent many hours quilting.
- Their quilts had complicated designs.
- Many quilts were exhibited at fairs.
- By 1883, quilts were on 75% of all beds in the country.

Now

- Most quilts today are machine-made.
- Quilting is a popular hobby.
- Hand made quilts are displayed in art museums.

_____ 1. Quilting has been around since ancient times.

_____ 2. Horsemen might have worn quilted shirts to protect their skin.

_____ 3. The Chinese invented quilts.

_____ 4. Probably no quilts from ancient times are around today.

_____ 5. Only rich people can afford quilts today.

_____ 6. The Dutch were the first to bring quilting to America.

_____ 7. Pioneer women must have given a lot of attention to the details in their quilts.

_____ 8. Prizes were probably awarded at fairs for well-crafted or beautiful quilts.

_____ 9. Quilts became popular as bed coverings.

_____ 10. Quilting today is more of a spare-time activity.

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________





You better believe that you can predict what will happen next by looking for clues in the story!

Directions: *Read the paragraph and then write the answers to the questions.*

Nettie's brightest idea turned into a huge mistake. One day she looked closely in the mirror. She noticed that her eyebrows appeared to be growing together. "Yuck," she thought. Plucking the connected hair sounded painful. So, she came up with a wild idea. She stole her mom's cream hair remover and dabbed it between her eyebrows. Next she put a little extra cream around the outside of her eyebrows just to shape them up a bit. Then she let the cream dry. About 10 minutes later, she rinsed off the dried cream. When she looked in the mirror she screamed so loud that her mom came running! Nettie must have smeared the hair remover over one eyebrow by accident because now she was completely missing her left eyebrow. Nettie's mom comforted her daughter, who was now sobbing. "I am sure it will grow back, dear," she said, hopefully. "However, I think I'll be the one to break this to your dad."

1. Which sentence hints that Nettie is about to do something unusual? ______________

____

____

2. Which sentence hints that something awful happened? __________________________

____

3. Which word hints that Nettie's mom is not posiive that Nettie's eyebrow will grow back? ____

____

4. Which sentence hints that Nettie's dad may not be too amused by this? ___________

____

____

Name: ________________________________ **Date:** ____________________



Go for it! If you get stuck on a word, keep reading. You might figure it out from other words around it.

Directions: *Read the paragraph. Then write five questions to create a test about what you read. (Hint: Use the 5w's.)*



Meet Mario. He works as a member of a ski patrol at a ski resort in Colorado. This sounds like a fun career, but it is very important and demanding. The primary job of the ski patrol is to protect everyone who is skiing or snowboarding on the mountain. To do that, Mario and other members of the ski patrol perform many tasks. They shovel snow off places where skiers walk and keep an eye on weather forecasts. They also inspect the ski runs and trails to be sure nothing is in the way that can injure skiers. The ski patrol must also have special abilities. They must be able to ski excellently and in blizzard-like weather. The ski patrol often rescues stranded or injured skiers, so they must be certified as emergency medical technicians, or EMTs. Last season, Mario and his team rescued more than 100 injured skiers. For all the work they do, it's easy to see why skiers are thankful for the ski patrol.

1. ______________________________

____

2. ______________________________

____

3. ______________________________

____

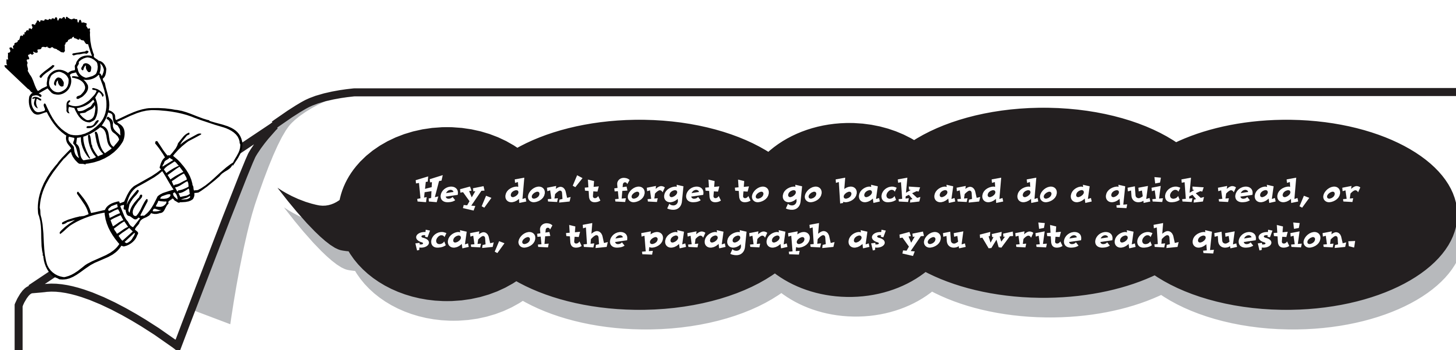
4. ______________________________

____

5. ______________________________

____

Name: ____________________ **Date:** ____________________



Directions: *Read about the Pony Express. Then write five questions to create a test about what you read. (Hint: Use the 5w's.)*



The Pony Express is one of the many interesting things that occurred as the American West was developed. The Pony Express was a mail service that carried mail by horseback from St. Joseph, Missouri, to Sacramento, California. The service began on April 3, 1860. Before that time in our country, it took up to three weeks for mail to cross the country. But with the Pony Express, mail could make the 2,000-mile trip in just 10 days.

How was this done? Mail was packed in special saddle bags. Riders rode along a trail of stations, or stops, which were about 25 miles apart. As a rider arrived at a station, he moved the saddle bags to a fresh horse and continued the trip. Riders were expected to cover 75 miles a day. Most riders were young men or teenagers. The Pony Express had more than 100 stations, 80 riders, and about 500 horses. It was discontinued in 1861 when the business went bankrupt, or broke.

1. ____

____

2. ____

____

3. ____

____

4. ____

____

5. ____

____

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Picture the story as you read—just like a movie in your mind.

Directions: *Read the story and answer the questions.*

When I visited my cousin in Ohio last spring, she gave me a keepsake that I will treasure forever. It was a small book titled *The Gate of Pearl*. This beautiful little novel was bound in a soft leather cover with a picture delicately etched in gold on the front. As I held the book in my hand for the first time, I noticed that the picture was of two angel-like women who were holding a large oval on which the word *Love* was written. The word had rays coming from it, making it appear to shine. I opened the book carefully. The book was very old, and the pages were brown and fragile. I discovered that this book was written in 1869. However, the amazing thing was that this dear book once belonged to my great-great Aunt Katie, who was born in 1860. In 1872, she signed her name in neat cursive writing inside the front cover and now, more than 100 years later, I was holding this precious heirloom in my hand. I flipped open a page and read a sentence or two. . . “We are only separated by time, my child. Keep your heart filled with love.” At that moment, I knew Aunt Katie had just touched my life.

1. How do you know that the author is the one telling the story? ____________________

   ____

2. What are three words from the story that tell you the author’s attitude toward the book? ____

   ____

3. Do you concur, or agree, with the author that this book has value? ______________

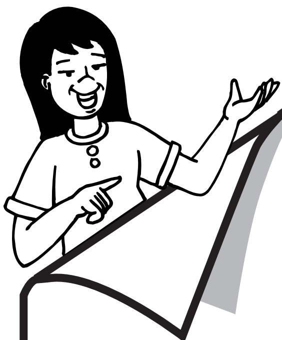
   Why or why not? ____

   ____

4. Pretend the book is writing the story. Write one sentence from the book’s point of view. ____

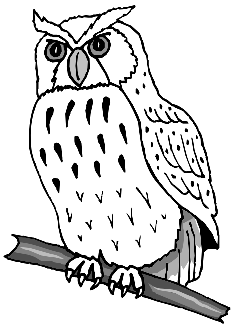
   ____

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________



Reading is a cool way to take a mental trip. As you read, let the words create sounds and pictures in your mind.

Directions: *Read the story and answer the questions.*



Randy and his family live on the outskirts, or the edge, of Tucson, Arizona. Many desert animals make their homes nearby. In particular, Randy watches a Great Horned Owl that lives across the babbling creek near his house. The owl has been there for years, but Randy has never spotted him during the winter months—never seen him and never heard him. But when the owl reappears, Randy knows that spring has arrived and summer is not far off. The owl has become a mark for the changing of the seasons.

Last Wednesday was a warm March day. Randy was playing outside and wondering about his bird friend. Later that night, he wandered outdoors again to check out the glowing full moon. Whoosh! He felt something brush by his shoulder and continue on toward the creek. Moments later he heard the owl's soft song float from a nearby Palo Verde tree. Yes, it's good that there are some things you can count on.

1. Who is telling the story—the character or a narrator? ______________________________

____

2. What kind of story is this—comedy, factual account, or mystery? ________________

____

3. The author uses the owl in this story to represent ____________________________

____

4. What would you say is the author's message to the reader? ______________________

____

____

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________



Wait! What do you know about wolves? Think out loud about that before you start this job.

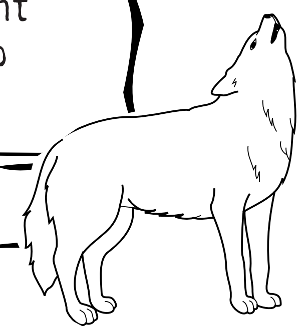
Directions: *Read the letter and answer the questions.*

Dear Humans,

Please quit trying to release me and my friends back into the wild. We really like it here in the zoo compound. We have lots of places to play and sleep. Besides that, we get food every day, and that might not happen if we were on our own. You know, it's not safe in the wild. Most people don't like us wolves. They try to scare us off or get rid of us. Believe me, that does not make for a fun life! There are not many of us left, so it would be best if you kept us in safe places like a zoo or a nature preserve. That way our population won't dwindle. Is there any reason why another species has to become endangered or extinct?

Yours truly,
Misty Gray Wolf





1. From whose point of view is this letter written? ______________________
2. How does the character want you to feel? ______________________
3. What is the character trying to get you to do? ______________________
____
4. Which sentence leads you to think the character is upset? ______________________
____
5. Which sentence includes the most persuasive thing the character said in order to get you to accept its view? ______________________
____
____

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Here's how I see it. Just make a mental picture as you read what the character is saying and then you'll know the answer.

Directions: *Several people wrote reports about a minor traffic accident but forgot to sign them. Read each traffic report from a different person's point of view. Use the names to figure out how to sign the reports. Then on another paper, write the report from the point of view of the one remaining character.*

witness in the restaurant—L. Simmons
witness on the sidewalk—D. Hopkins
helicopter pilot—H. Petty
car owner—A. Foster

1. That guy was trying to deliver tortillas to Peso's Place. Man, he was backing up so fast that he didn't bother to look to the right. I know because I was standing there watching him as he did it. Good thing I was able to jump out of the way before he hit the car.

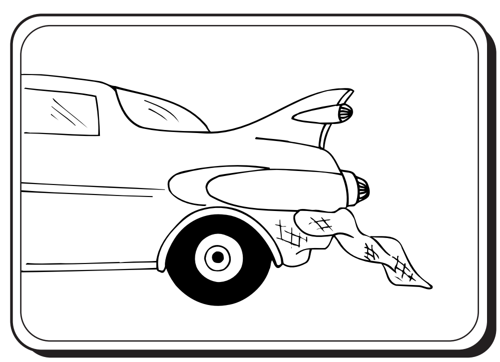
Signed: ______________________

2. On my way back to the television station, I spotted the big truck. I could tell right away that he was in trouble. From above, I could easily see that he didn't have enough room to back up and turn into the delivery area without hitting that guy's Cadillac.

Signed: ______________________

3. I just got back to my car after eating tacos at Peso's Place. I hadn't even started the car when a big semi-truck pulled up next to me and started backing up. Next thing I knew—bam! That big rig clipped the rear and ripped my new fender clean off. Boy, am I steamed!

Signed: ______________________

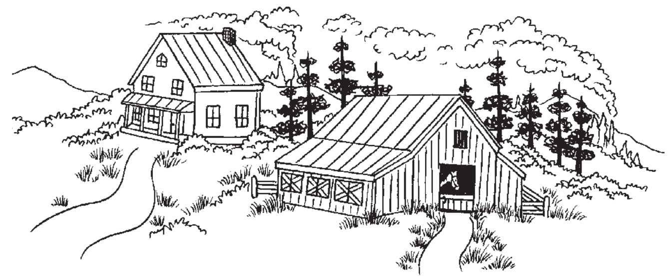


Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________________

Always feel free to reread to get the facts straight.

Directions: *Read the story and answer the questions.*

The Elmore family just escaped a tragedy. A careless camper forgot to make sure his campfire was completely out, and the fire set the forest near the Elmore's home ablaze. Mr. Elmore saw the smoke and called 911 right away. Firefighters arrived quickly. They began to knock down the fire and try to keep it from spreading. But the wind picked up and fire started to speed toward the Elmore's home. That's when the family was told to leave their home at once. They packed up in minutes and headed to a friend's house a safe distance away. Unfortunately, there was no time to take their three horses. Firefighters stayed on the job through the night and stood guard over the Elmore's house. Thanks to the winds dying down they were able to control the fire, saving the horses and the home.



1. What caused Mr. Elmore to conclude that a fire was near? ______________________

____

2. Based on what you read in this story, how would you explain what winds do to a forest fire? ____

____

____

3. Do you agree with leaving the horses behind? Why or Why not? _______________

____

____

4. What importance did the firefighters play to the outcome of the story? __________

____

____

5. What is your opinion of the camper? _____________________________________

____

____

Name: ________________________________ **Date:** ________________



Is it okay to go back and reread the story more carefully if you need to do so? Sure!

Directions: *Read the story and answer the questions.*



Arial was the lead singer at the spring concert in the school gym. She just started her solo of "You Light Up My Life" when there was a loud snap and the power went out. The whole gym went dark and her microphone went off, but Arial just kept singing. Everyone started to laugh. The principal got a flashlight and went over to Arial to tell her she could stop. On the way, he tripped on the microphone wire and fell down flat in front of her. That didn't stop Arial. She kept singing as loudly and bravely as she could. The audience was now in an uproar. As Arial was finishing her song, the lights came back on. As you can imagine, the audience gave her a standing ovation. For her next number Arial sang "Coming Out of the Dark."

1. How would you explain why Arial kept singing through the power outage?

____

____

____

2. What choice would you have made in that situation?

____

____

____

3. What would you say to defend the actions of the audience?

____

____

____

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Here's a hint! Scan the story as many times as you need to get to information from which to write your questions and answers.

Directions: *Read about Ron. Then write three questions you might ask him based on facts you learned about him in the story. Then write the answers you think he might give.*



Ron Gladstone is a runner. He took up running when he was about 10 years old and has been doing it ever since. Now he runs on his high school track team and has a coach to help him improve his skills. Ron has run many races and won several medals. Ron says that in order to do anything well, you must devote lots of time to it and keep a winning vision in your mind. Ron's friends like him and respect the fact that he stays focused on his goal. They also have nicknamed him Happy Rock.

1. Question: ______________________________

   ____

   Answer: ______________________________

   ____

2. Question: ______________________________

   ____

   Answer: ______________________________

   ____

3. Question: ______________________________

   ____

   Answer: ______________________________

   ____

Name: ____________________ **Date:** ____________________

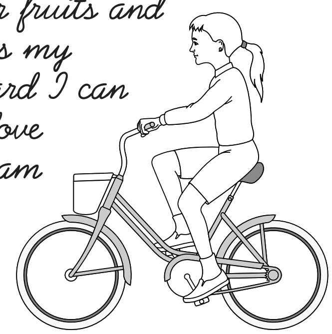


It's quite simple—organizing what you have learned is a key to remembering it.

Directions: *Read the letter to Susie from Irina. Then fill in the character chart to organize what you have learned about Irina.*

Dear Susie,

Hello from Moscow. I live here with my mother, Masha, and my father, Michael. My father was born in America. My parents met while my father was in Russia on business. Now he lives and works here all the time. We enjoy a happy life in Moscow. I go to school each day like you. In the afternoon I like helping my mother shop for fruits and vegetables at the open-air markets along the city streets. Watermelon is my favorite food. My father says I am quite bright and that if I study hard I can go to the university. I hope to be a scientist. I play the violin and I love making beautiful music. The violin is a challenging instrument, but I am determined to master it someday. On the weekends, my family and I ride our bikes to the forest just outside the city. You should see the colorful flowers in the forest! Please tell me about you.



Your friend, Irina

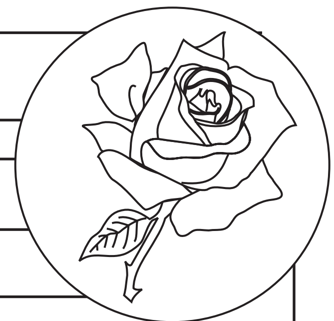
Characteristic	Description
How she feels about her life	
A fact about her parents	
What her father thinks about her	
Her goals	
Things she likes	
A quote that tells about her personality	

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ____________



Don't worry! It's not cheating to look back and find the answers.

Directions: *Many children have enjoyed the timeless tale of* Beauty and the Beast. *After you have read this fanciful fairy tale, analyze the main setting, or where the story takes place, by filling in the chart.*



Main Setting: ______________________________

Details (what it looks like): ______________________________

____

____

____

____

What takes place there?

Event 1: ______________________________

____

Event 2: ______________________________

____

Event 3: ______________________________

____

Event 4: ______________________________

____

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Of course, you know that sometimes you have to read between the lines, or infer, to figure things out in a story.

Directions: *Read each snippet, or short bit, from the stories. Then choose the setting and write it on the line.*

cemetery	**coral reef**	**backyard**
ice rink	**walk-in refrigerator**	

1. Sweat trickled down our backs as we sat under the shade of the old tree. With rows of headstones still to check, locating the grave of our great grandmother would take the rest of the afternoon.

   ____

2. I was cold. No, I was freezing. There was no way I could pry open the huge steel door that led out to the restaurant's kitchen. Being trapped in here was more than a problem. It could be a tragedy.

   ____

3. Mark slipped his mask over his eyes and slid into the salty water. With the snorkel tube in place, he put his face into the water and began to paddle. It wasn't long until he spotted a huge school of blue and orange fish.

   ____

4. Allison threw a blanket over a thick, low branch that extended from the tree next to her garage. With one swing of her leg, she was up and on the blanket. She grabbed the rope that she had tied to the branch for reins and rode her imaginary Pegasus into the sky.

   ____

5. Jenna checked the laces of her skates once more and headed onto the ice. Coach gave her a big thumbs up, but it wasn't enough to quell the butterflies in her stomach. She had practiced her program for weeks now, but she wasn't prepared for the boy she had a crush on to be in the stands.

   ____

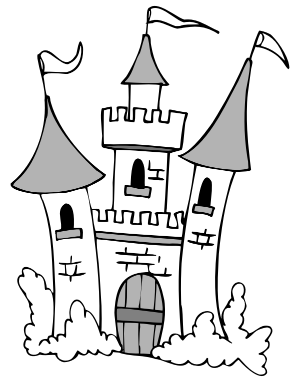
Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Please don't forget to use inference or "read between the lines" for clues.

Directions: *Read the description of the story. Then, write the letter of the set of words that describes the setting of the story and the time in which it takes place.*

a. forest—present day years
b. castle—imaginary time
c. another planet—the future
d. China—present day
e. dock—Revolutionary War times
f. swamp—prehistoric times
g. Nebraska—the late 1800s
h. television station—present day



____ 1. A story about a scientist who time-travels so he can study plant-eating dinosaurs in their natural habitat

____ 2. A story about some kids who travel to Mars to buy things for their science fair project

____ 3. A story about a 15-year-old owl who has vision problems and has to come to terms with the fact that he needs glasses in order to survive in his environment

____ 4. A story about a monkey who can fly and is the ruler of his kingdom.

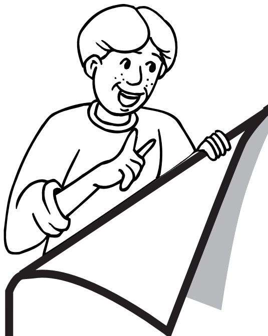
____ 5. A story about a young artist who secretly witnessed the Boston Tea Party and made a sketch of the event

____ 6. A story about a Asian girl who overcame a serious illness and went on to compete in Olympic swimming events

____ 7. A story about a doctor who wonders whether she should have agreed to leave her home in the east and work in a little town on the prairie

____ 8. A story about a girl whose mother is a weather forecaster on Channel 6

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Hold your horses! Be sure to look back through the story as you do this job.

Directions: *Read the story and then write phrases to complete the matrix that examines the two settings in the story.*

Chris Biskit sat in class and daydreamed about what Thursday would bring. That day was "Bring Your Son to Work Day," and Chris was going to his mom's office. "Chris, focus on your math assignment," his teacher said firmly, snapping him back. It was hard to concentrate on anything in this classroom. It doubled as the science room and was full of tanks and cages of animals, as well as odd smells.

On Thursday, Chris put on a dress shirt and proudly went to work with Mom. The office was organized and calm—everyone quietly worked on their computers. Chris wrote his name on the office white board as "Mr. Biskit" and checked that he was "in." Soon he needed something to do besides sit. Mom let him seal envelopes and run mail to the mailroom. He even earned tips for other jobs he did for the office staff that day.

	Chris's Classroom	**Mom's Office**
Words or phrases from the story that describe the setting		
A problem that Chris faced in this setting		
Other characters in this setting		

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ____________

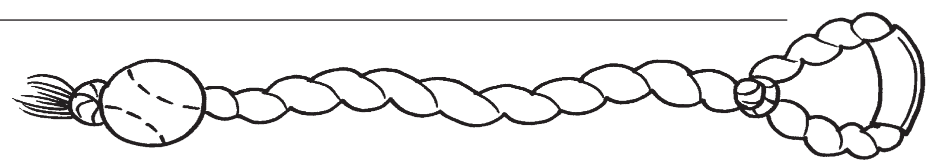


Look, be smart. Scan the story after reading it to spot parts of the plot that you want to describe.

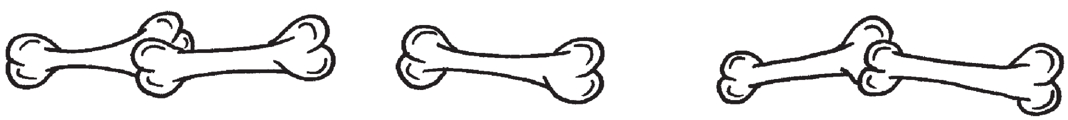
Directions: *Read the story. Then write a sentence to describe the main idea of each part of the plot, or sequence of events.*



When my 11-year old dog started to lack interest in her dry dog food, I was not overly concerned. I'd get tired of the same food day after day, too. But when this went on for several weeks, I began to worry. She would start to eat and then just walk away from her dish. I also noticed she had quit playing with her favorite tug toy.

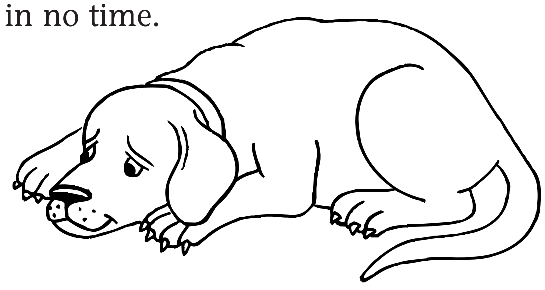


When I came home from school one day last week, my dog ran to greet me as usual. I bent down to pet her cute little face and she let out a yelp. That's when I knew it was time to see the vet.



I took her to the vet. She whimpered quietly while we waited in the waiting room. When the vet looked inside her mouth he quickly spotted the problem.

"This doggie has several loose teeth that are causing her pain," he said. He removed her loose teeth and gave her some medicine. She was feeling fine in no time.



Name: __________ **Date:** __________



It's as easy as 1,2,3! The plot is the sequence of events and actions in the story.

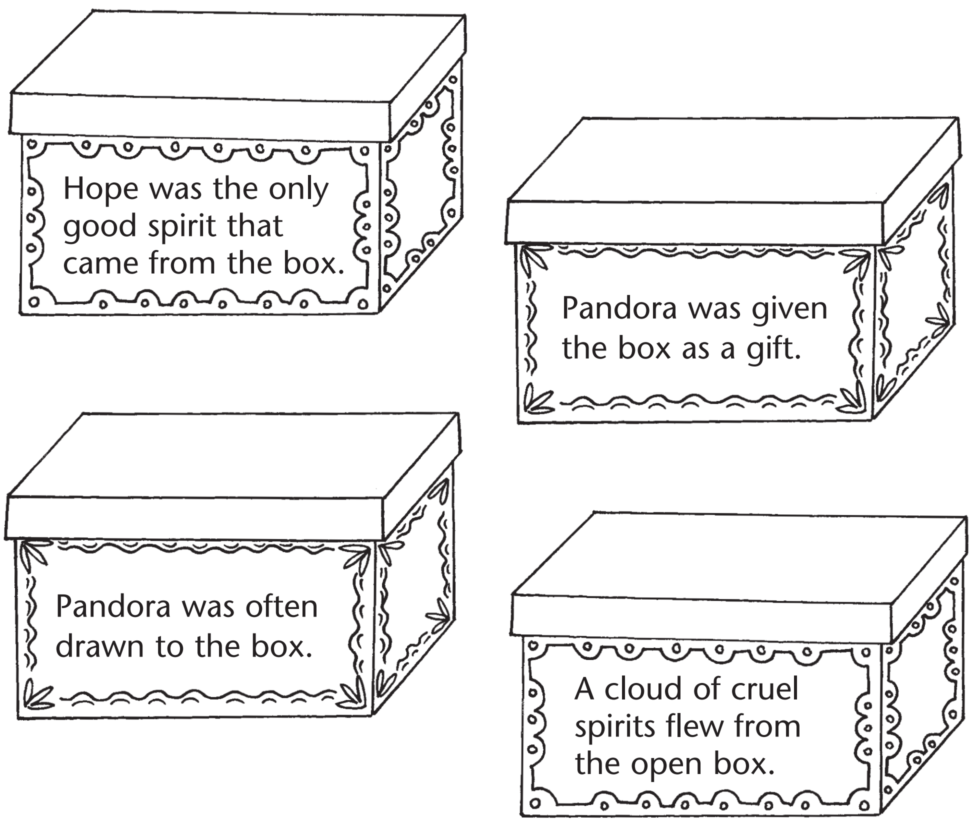
Directions: *Read the story. Then write phrases to complete the outline of the plot.*

According to Greek mythology, Pandora was the first woman on earth. Pandora was good and beautiful. Soon after she was created, she was given a special box as a gift. However, she was told to keep the box safe and never open it.

Now Pandora was also a curious young woman and was constantly drawn to the mysterious box. Finally one day her curiosity overcame her. She carefully lifted the lid of the box. When she did, a horrible cloud flew from the box. In the cloud were the spirits of sickness, hate, greed, jealousy, and other cruel things that hurt humankind.

Pandora tried to shut the box, but it was too late. From that day on, humankind had to live with the cruel spirits that Pandora let out of the box. The only good thing that came out of the box was the spirit of Hope—something to give humankind comfort in times of distress.

Read the sentence on each box. Then write on the lid which part of the plot the sentence describes—introduction, building action, high point, resolution.





Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Warning! This is not a test. Go back and reread the book if you need to get the facts.

Directions: *Every fictional story has an interesting or an amusing character. Enjoy reading a book of your choice and then use the map below to analyze one of its characters. Draw a picture of the character and then write notes, or phrases, about the character using the 5w's. Last, use your map to help you write a paragraph about the character.*

Title ____

Author ____

Character's Name

____

Who → ____________________________

What → ____________________________

Where → ____________________________

When → ____________________________

Why → ____________________________

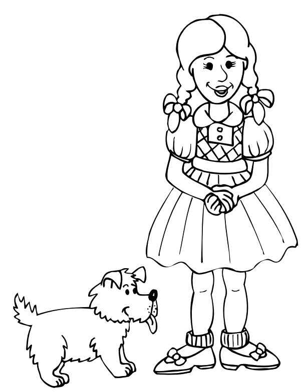
Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________________



Okay, my pretties. Look for patterns on the grid to help you make generalizations.

Directions: *In 1900, L. Frank Baum wrote the classic story called* The Wizard of Oz. *The story became so popular that in 1939 it was made into a movie musical. People still enjoy this popular fairy tale. After you have seen the movie or read the book, use the grid below to classify, or sort, the characters according to their traits. Write + for yes and – for no.*

	male	female	human	animal	supernatural	object that came to life
Dorothy						
Toto						
Cowardly Lion						
Scarecrow						
Tin Man						
The Wizard						
Glinda the Good Witch						
Wicked Witch of the West						
Auntie Em						
Uncle Henry						



Use the grid to write two generalizations, or true statements, about the story characters.

1. ______________________________

____

2. ______________________________

____

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Do what good readers do. Make a picture in your mind as you read this poem.

Directions: *Read the poem and answer the questions.*

Hug Tight

Hug your loved ones tight today
Whisper in their ear
Tell them that you love them
And will always hold them dear.

For the future is promised to no one
Young and old alike
So today may be your last chance
To hug your loved ones tight.

— Unknown

1. Whom do you think the poet is talking to? ______________________________

2. What is the poet trying to say? ______________________________

3. Who or what are the "loved ones" referred to in the poem? ______________________________

4. What picture came to mind when you read this poem? ______________________________

5. What words tell you what the poet thinks about the future? ______________________________

6. When you read or listen to this poem, how do you feel? ______________________________

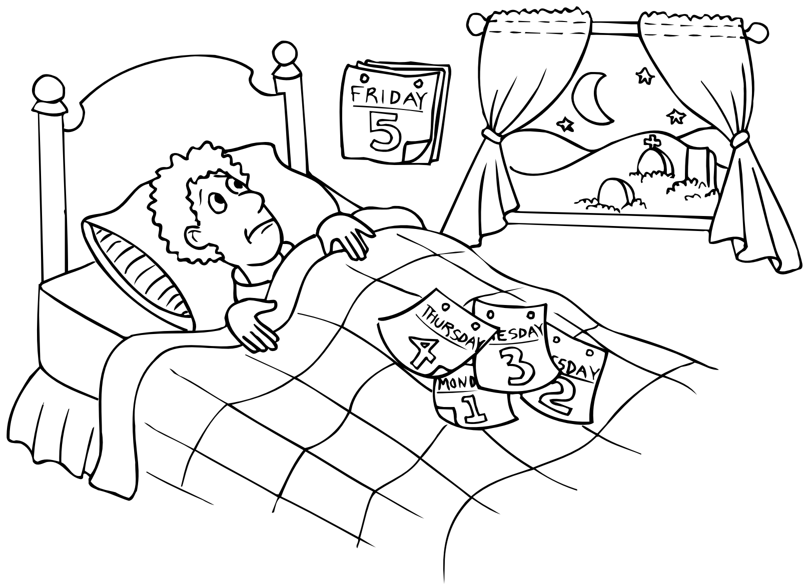
7. What do you think may have happened to cause the poet to write this poem? ______________________________

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ______________



Here's the scoop. The mood of a work in literature is the feeling it creates in the reader through the topic, the use of words, and the pictures.

Directions: *Analyze the mood of the poem. Write the answers.*



Solomon Grundy

Solomon Grundy
Born on Monday
Christened on Tuesday
Married on Wednesday
Took ill on Thursday
Worse on Friday
Died on Saturday
Buried on Sunday
So that was the end
Of Solomon Grundy.

1. Is this poem suspenseful, humorous, mysterious, or serious? ____________________

____

2. Why or what makes you think so? ____

____

3. Give two reasons why this poem is like a song. ________________________

a. ____

b. ____

4. Suppose you could rewrite the poem to change its mood. What would you do?

____

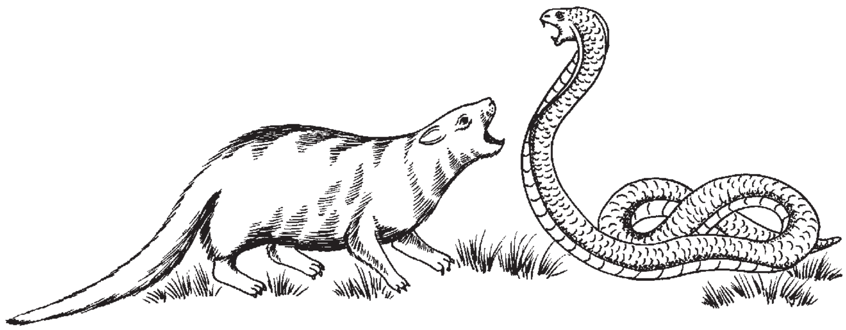
____

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________



Get a quick preview by reading the caption under the picture.

Directions: *Read the paragraph. Then complete the tasks below.*



The Mighty Mongoose

The mongoose is an animal with many special talents. Most of the time this small gray mammal runs on the ground, but it can also run backwards, and climb walls and trees. In addition, it can leap high into the air. How? It just rolls itself into a ball and then jumps up using its hind legs. The mongoose is a skillful hunter. It usually eats small rodents, lizards, and eggs. However, it can attack and kill deadly snakes like cobras without getting hurt.

Describe features of the mongoose.

____

____

____

____

List three facts about the mongoose.

1. ____

____

2. ____

____

3. ____

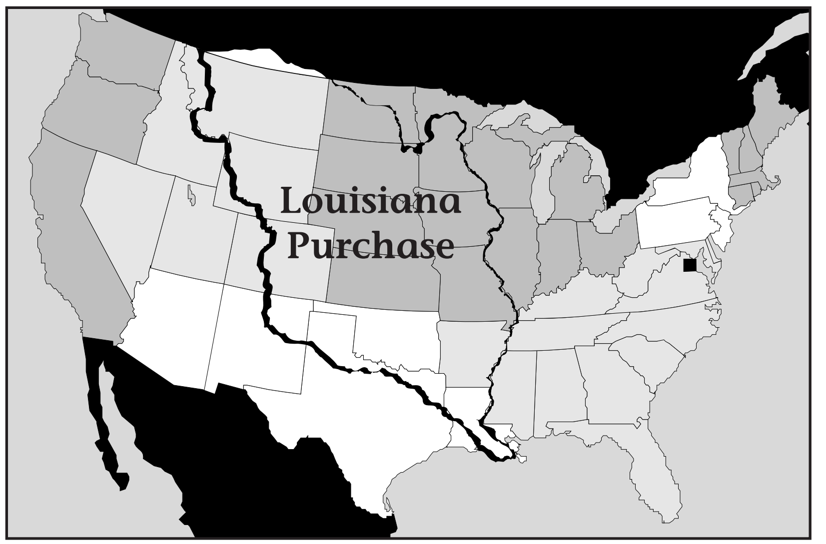
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Name: ____________________ **Date:** ____________



Directions: *Read the paragraph. Then read the questions and write the answers.*

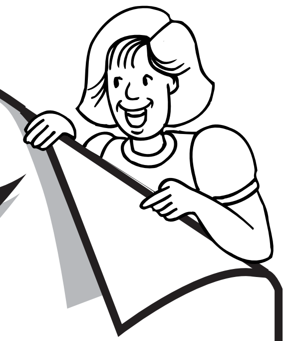
In the early 1800s, the United States was growing and needed more land for the expanding new nation. So in 1803, the federal government purchased from France a huge section of land in North America. This section of land, known as the Louisiana Purchase, added more than 800,000 square miles to our country. This was the largest area ever added to the United States at one time. What was the price tag for this big buy? The United States paid France a whopping $15 million for the territory. Eventually portions of or all of 15 states were formed from this area.



1. Who owned this land first? ________________________________
2. When did the U.S. purchase this land? ________________________________
3. Why did the U.S. need this land? ________________________________
4. How big was this section of land? ________________________________
5. How much was paid for this land? ________________________________
6. What became of this land? ________________________________
7. What did this purchase come to be called? ________________________________
8. What is important about this purchase? ________________________________

____

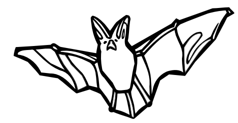
Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



This will be no sweat, but first you need to get some knowledge under your belt. Read about mammals in an encyclopedia before you do this.

Directions: *Write **yes** next to the statement if it is a correct generalization. Write **no** if it is not.*

A generalization is a statement that is true all the time for the thing or things which it describes. That sounds a little confusing, but with a little practice you will get the hang of this fun thinking skill. Let's try it.

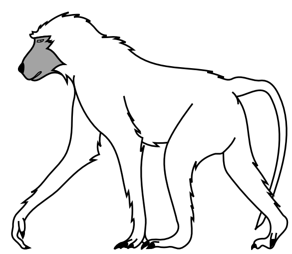


______ 1. All mammals are living things.

______ 2. All mammals grow.

______ 3. All mammals eat.

______ 4. All mammals have feathers.



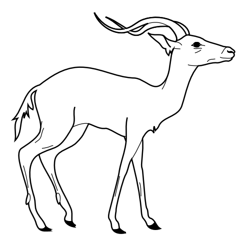
______ 5. All mammals move.

______ 6. All mammals are dangerous.

______ 7. All mammals are wild.

______ 8. All mammals have eyes.

______ 9. All mammals make noise.

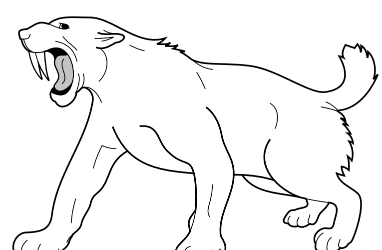


______ 10. All mammals have wings.

______ 11. All mammals are pets.

______ 12. All mammals have four limbs.

______ 13. All mammals are people.

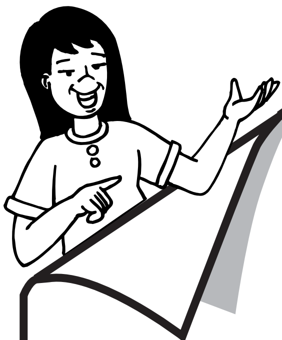


______ 14. All mammals have a heart.

______ 15. All mammals are young before they are old.



Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ____________________



Whoa, think carefully here! A generalization will be the statement that is true for all the information put together.

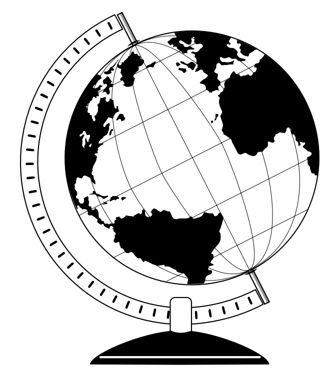
Directions: *Read the information. Underline the correct generalization after you have thought about each one carefully.*

1. This year in our school, 22 girls wear glasses, while only 18 boys wear glasses.
   a. Girls always need glasses more than boys.
   b. In our school 40 students wear glasses this year.

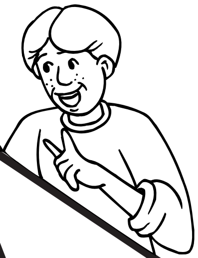
2. Broccoli is low in calories and fat. It is also packed with vitamins and other nutrients.
   a. Broccoli is a healthy food.
   b. Everyone will like broccoli.

3. I filled my backyard bird feeder with all kinds of sweet treats. The robins ate just the berries, while the sparrows gobbled up all the raisins. Only the orioles loved the oranges.
   a. Different birds have different eating habits.
   b. Most birds don't like oranges.

4. Glaciers slide down a mountain and push the earth into new shapes. Earthquakes shake the earth and cause it to move on the surface. Hot lava flows from the opening of a volcano and runs across the land. Floods can wipe out towns and damage the land.
   a. The earth is full of things that cause it to change.
   b. Things happen in some places on earth that cause it to change.



Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Here's a study tip. Mapping information is a terrific way to help you remember it.

Directions: *Read the story. Then write short sentences or phrases to complete the flow chart showing the chain of story events.*

My first camping trip was my last, thanks to a three-foot hopper known as the "Jackalope." It was our third night and my buddy, Melvin, and I were sitting around the campfire after dinner. Suddenly, a flash of white fur with antlers tore out of the bushes. I froze in terror as the sniffling and snarling hare grabbed our marshmallows, graham crackers, and chocolate bars, and then took off into the woods. I was so freaked out that I ran all the way to the ranger station to report the robber Jackalope. The rangers roared with laughter and went back to their card game. I just hope you believe my story.

Event 1 → Event 2 → Event 3

Event 6 ← Event 5 ← Event 4

Event 7



Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



Stop! Ask yourself what the story will be about. Now read on!

Directions: *Read the story and then write phrases on the web to describe the main events.*



Celine and Jean are twins who just had their 10th birthday party at a climbing gym. First, their eight party guests put on special shoes with sticky rubber on the bottom. Next, they each snapped on a special climbing harness and a helmet. Next the relay race to climb the rock-like wall began. The kids were divided into two teams—one team for Celine and one for Jean. At a signal, one kid from each team ran to the wall where an adult instructor tied a rope to their harnesses. The two kids scurried up the climbing wall to ring a bell that was at the top. Next, they rappelled, or slid down the rope, to the ground again. Then the next two kids in line made the climb. In the end, Jean's team won the race. Finally, everyone enjoyed the girls' birthday cake, which was decorated like a snowy mountain peak.



A Birthday Party at the Climbing Gym

1. ______________________

2. ______________________

3. ______________________

4. ______________________

5. ______________________

6. ______________________

7. ______________________

8. ______________________

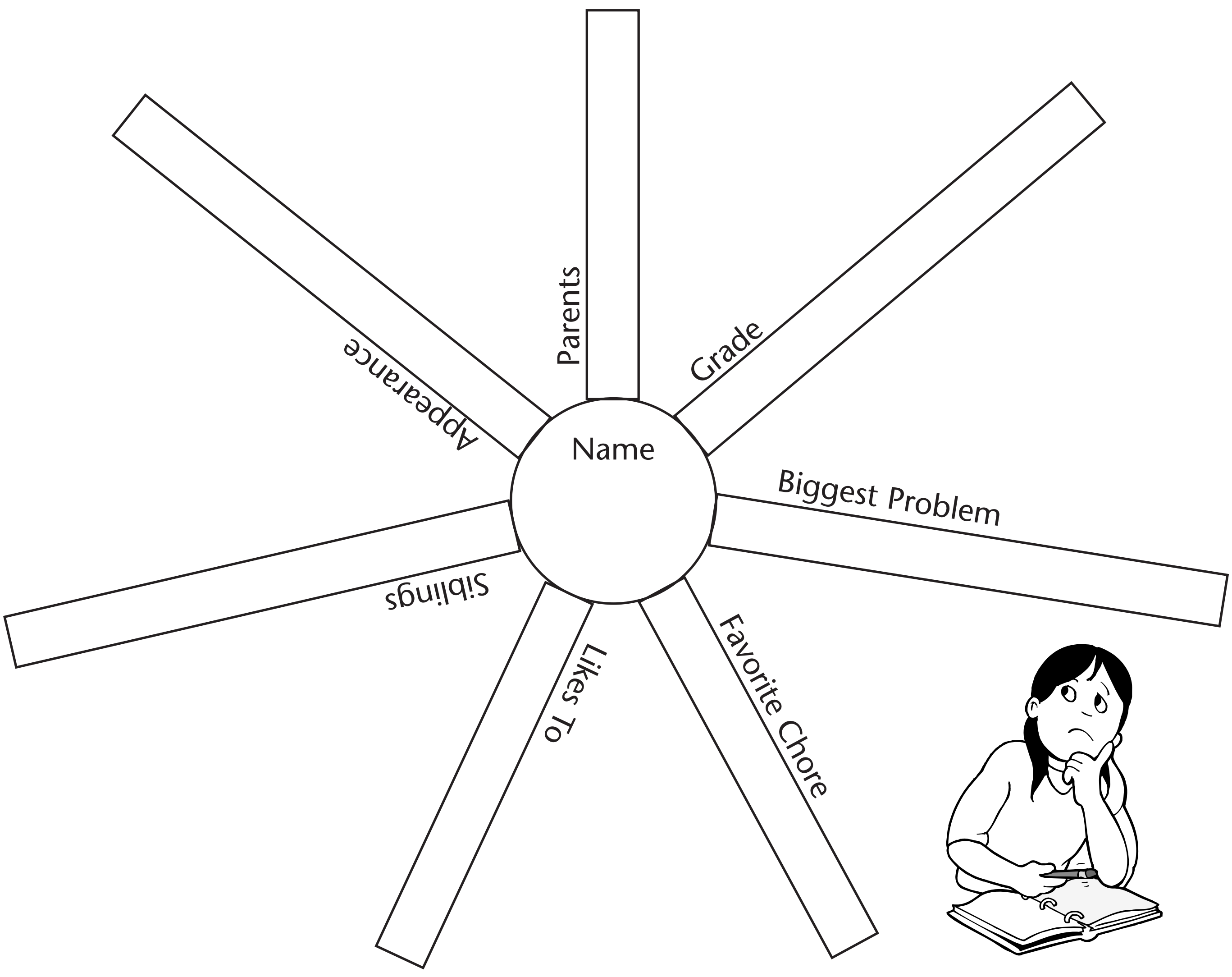
Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________________



Hey, making a story or character map is a cool way to take notes!

Directions: *Read the paragraph about Anita. Then write facts about her on the spokes of the character map.*

Anita Hanson is a fourth-grade girl with long red hair and twinkling blue eyes. She lives in Chicago with her mom, two brothers, and one baby sister. Like many girls her age, Anita loves to dance and write in her dairy each day. Her biggest problem is keeping her baby sister out of her room. The baby makes a mess wherever she goes and Anita is very particular about her room. Everyone in the Hanson home has chores (except the baby, of course). Anita's favorite chore is bringing in the mail each day. That way she gets to check out all the mail-order catalogs before anyone else.



Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________



What in the world is this? This "map" is a cool and powerful way to remember what you have read!

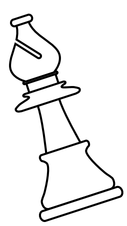
Directions: *Read about Adam and then write words or phrases on the character map to organize what you learned about him.*

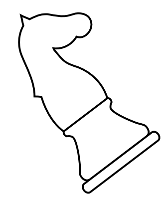
Adam Gary is a nine-year-old boy who loves to play chess, so he started a Chess Club at his school. He invited anyone who wanted to learn or play the game to join the club.

"What a great idea. I joined right away!" said his classmate, Adela. She knew Adam was the best player around and could teach her how to play the game well.

"Adam is so well liked that lots of kids joined this club," said his teacher.

Adam was excited that his idea was a hit. "Now, I'll have lots of people with whom I can play my favorite game," he said.





Name ______________________

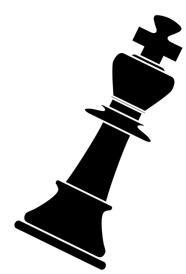
Age ______________________

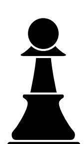
Why He Did It ______________________ ______________________

Favorite Game ______________________

What Others Say or Think About Him ______________________ ______________________

What He Did ______________________





Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________________

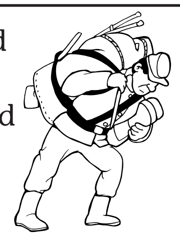


So you're waiting for a hint? Well, here goes. Look for clues in what the character does to infer or conclude how he looks and feels.

Directions: *James Kenton Kay is a young Civil War soldier. Read the timeline about one of his days in the Union army. Then write how he might look or feel during each time of day.*

A Soldier's Day

5 a.m. We were awakened and told to be ready to march by 6 a.m. Today's breakfast was hard biscuits and cold coffee. It's going to be a long day.



____

____

____

____

9 a.m. As I was marching, I came across another Union soldier by the road. It looked as if he had a broken foot. I gave him a sip of water and put his blanket under his foot. Then I was ordered to move on.

____

____

____

____

Noon. We stopped at a small farm. I thanked goodness for the pond. A quick soak was the sure cure for my sore feet. It also cleaned my clothes that hadn't been boiled clean for a week or more now. I hardly missed lunch.

____

____

____

____

4 p.m. The mail arrived at our afternoon stop. Hooray, there's a letter for me from Ma! She had lots of news about her, Pa, and my sister, Sarah Sue. They said my horse misses me. The other men teased me a lot about that one.

____

____

____

____

9 p.m. We made soup from some vegetables, salt, and water. Darn. It looks like it will drizzle all night because the air feels heavy and damp. Tomorrow we must march another 18 miles to catch up with the other men in our company.

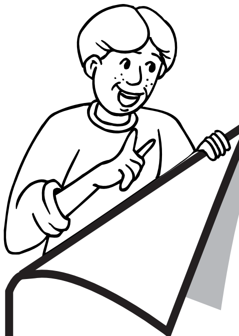
____

____

____

____

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ______________



Wow! A timeline is just like a number line. Things go in order from left to right.

Directions: *Read the dates and events below that tell some important times in the history of the bicycle. Write them in order on the timeline.*

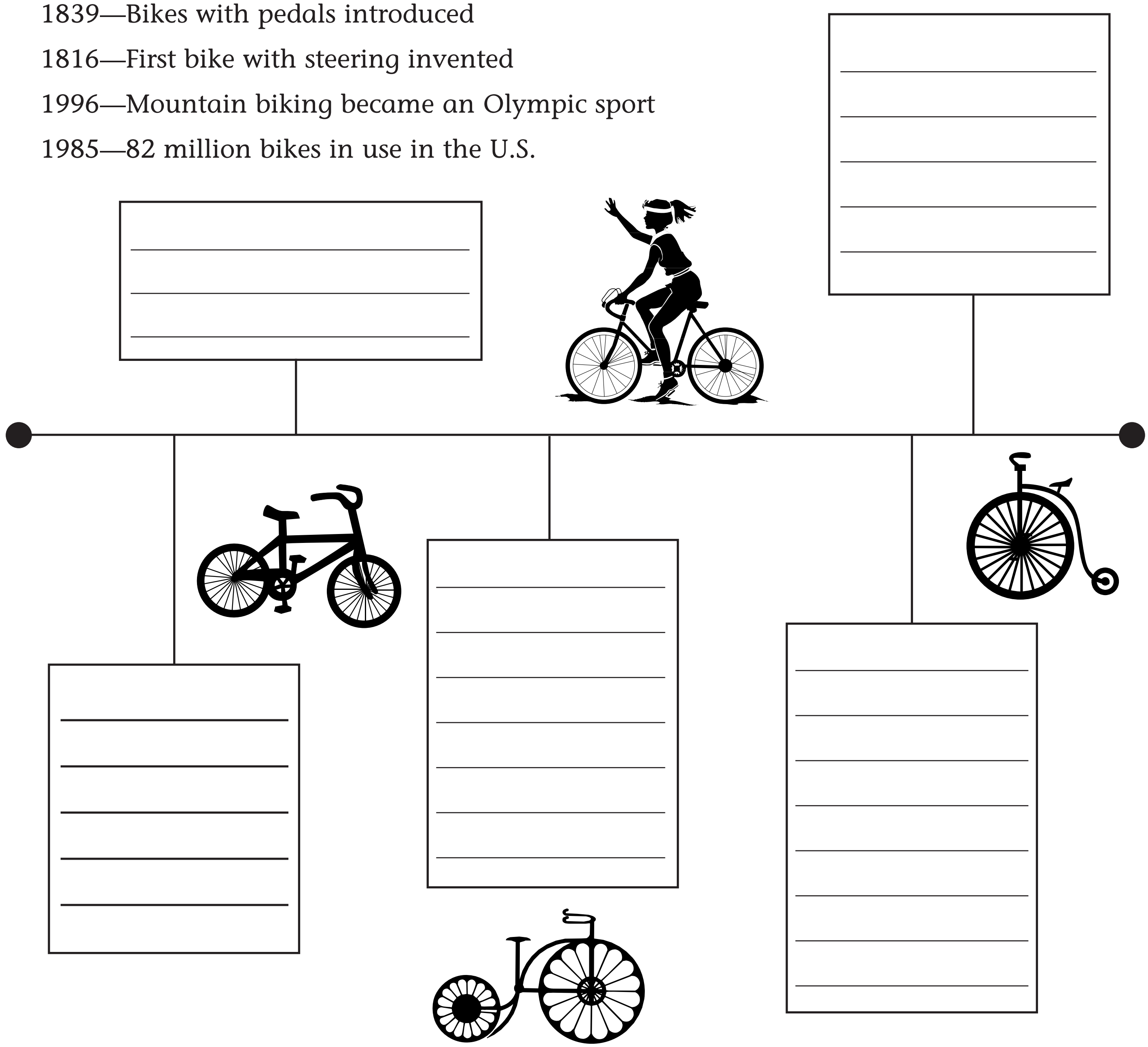
1873—High wheeler bikes produced

1839—Bikes with pedals introduced

1816—First bike with steering invented

1996—Mountain biking became an Olympic sport

1985—82 million bikes in use in the U.S.



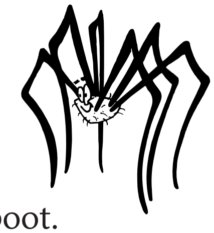
Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________

You know, it's no surprise that mapping a story helps you to remember and understand it better.



Directions: *Read the list of story features and events. Then write them on the correct spot on the story web. Last, on the back of this paper, write your version of this story.*

Miss Peters and the Wolf Spider



- She sees that it moved into the hole she dug
- A wolf spider is nesting in one of her garden boots.
- She steals back her boot.
- It refuses to find another home.
- retired woman
- a garden
- Miss Peters
- Then she hides and waits until the spider leaves the boot.
- She digs the spider a hole to encourage it to move in.

Who

What

Where

The problems

1. ______________________

2. ______________________

Problem building up

____

Problem comes to a head

1. ______________________

2. ______________________

Problem resolved

____

Name: ______________________ **Date:** ______________________



Bam! Comprehension and memory power—that's what you get when you map a story.

Directions: *Read a version of the fairy tale* Rumpelstiltskin *and then fill in the map.*





Who

What

Where

The problems

1. ______________________________

2. ______________________________

Problem building up

____

Problem comes to a head

1. ______________________________

2. ______________________________

Problem resolved

____

Name: ______________________________ **Date:** ______________

Scope & Sequence

Students	root words/word origins	prefixes/suffixes	visual/context clues	multiple meaning/signal words	dictionary/glossary	directions	classification/categorize	context clues	analogies	figures of speech	five W's	prediction	problem/solution	graphic devices	logic matrix	fact/fantasy	fact/opinion/exaggeration	trivial/redundant information	story order	topic/supporting sentences

Scope & Sequence

Students	compare/contrast	cause/effect	character analysis	data analysis	inferences	outcome prediction	author's view/purpose	character's view/purpose	story evaluation	main character analysis	setting analysis	time analysis	plot analysis	tone/mood analysis	factual recall	generalizations	events map	characters map	events/characters map	events/characters map

Answer Key

Page 6

Min: minimal, minor diminish

Vis, vid: visible, video, invisible

Form: reform, format, deformity

Dic, dict: dictate, indicate, predict

Page 7

1. F
2. A
3. B
4. F
5. C
6. C
7. A
8. D
9. B
10. E
11. C
12. B
13. C
14. E
15. B
16. D
17. B
18. C
19. B
20. E

Page 8

1. c
2. b
3. a
4. b
5. b
6. b
7. c

Page 9

1. ferry
2. clamor
3. legal
4. ruptured
5. remember
6. location
7. junction
8. solve
9. collection
10. conduct
11. vacant
12. revolve

Page 10

Check to see all prefixes are circled.

1. fair
2. visit
3. legal
4. name
5. obey
6. learn
7. doors
8. dose
9. happy
10. active
11. thread
12. play
13. polite
14. appear
15. test
16. cover
17. air
18. charge
19. voter
20. twine
21. deiced
22. repainted
23. relive
24. replace

Page 11

1. Preschool: before school
2. Unexcited: not excited
3. Unhappy: not happy
4. Unamused: not amused
5. Mismatch: not a match
6. Untamed: not tamed
7. Misfortune: wrong fortune
8. Misapplying: applying wrongly
9. Reappears: appears again
10. Rehired: hired again
11. Relive: live again

Page 12

1. tourist—ist
2. speeding—in139g
3. breakable—able, embarrassment—ment
4. grateful—ful
5. slowly—ly, enjoyment—ment
6. positive-ive

Page 13

1. destructive
2. stronger
3. impressive
4. blacken
5. dangerous
6. completely
7. helpless
8. quickly
9. greatly
10. frequently

Page 14

Illustrations and dialogue will vary.

Page 15

1. brightly colored
2. kinds
3. feature
4. short, stiff hairs
5. sound like hissing, clicking, or barking
6. regrow
7. hot and humid regions
8. make it possible

Page 16

1. d
2. c
3. b
4. c
5. a
6. b
7. a
8. b

Page 17

1. wet, spongy ground
2. meat-eating plant
3. flexible; jointed
4. to ooze out
5. food caught by a predator

Page 18

1. b
2. b
3. a
4. a
5. b
6. a
7. a
8. b

Page 19

1. 2, 1
2. 1, 2
3. 1, 2
4. 1, 2
5. 2, 1
6. 1, 2
7. 1, 2
8. 1, 2

Page 20

1. b, f
2. a, c
3. h, p
4. g, i
5. k, o
6. l, n
7. e, m
8. d, j

Page 21

Where: next to, near, across, beyond

Sequence: first, during, since, again

Continuation: more, little by little, in addition, furthermore

Importance: a key point, most of all, a major factor, above all

Page 22

After, first, finally, after, next, little by little, once, while, then, after, on time

Page 23

1. T—a formal order
2. F— a weasel
3. F—very happy
4. F—binder for roads
5. T— a criminal
6. T—pickle
7. T—complicated
8. T—perhaps
9. F—a tailless ape
10. T—a set of bells
11. T—beginner
12. T—unlikely
13. F—metal cover for an engine
14. T—correct
15. T—good moral behavior

Page 24

Predictions will vary.

1. disguised
2. ghosts
3. humorous
4. someone who eats a lot of food
5. bursts of laughter
6. deceived; fooled
7. precise

8. unsweetened bread
9. upset
10. doubtful

Page 25

1. live in water during early life; live on land as adults
2. on skin
3. at night
4. webbing
5. fresh water
6. It would drop.
7. spend the winter sleeping
8. clutch
9. Answers will vary.
10. Answers will vary.

Page 26

1. a lot
2. a
3. maybe
4. Answers will vary.
5. Might have
6. Nowhere
7. Supposed to
8. Can

Page 27

1. school—education
2. weird—something unusual
3. surname—last name
4. other—in one ear
5. dentist/dental—teeth cleaned
6. cry—laugh
7. friends—buddies

Page 28

Answers may vary.

1. adobe—soil
2. United States—our country
3. farming—fertile soil and plentiful crops
4. dry—hard
5. homes—dwellings
6. sun—baking
7. rocks—hard
8. soil—adobe bricks

Page 29

Make sure the colored regions match the directions.

Circle Maine

Some answers will vary.

Page 30

1. 4 to 5
2. Cut bananas into ¼-inch slices.
3. Brush the slices with lemon juice.
4. bananas and a lemon
5. a knife
6. squeeze a lemon
7. Answers will vary.
8. Answers will vary.
9. Leave out the nuts.
10. Double the recipe.

Page 31

1. band
2. five
3. natural, manufactured, or recycled object
4. Trace or draw a smaller circle in the center of the larger circle.
5. Hang it on a door.
6. Answers will vary.
7. Let the wreath dry completely.
8. attach the objects to the cardboard
9. Answers will vary.
10. Answers will vary.

Page 32

Answer: Retail Store

Page 33

Names: Pacific, Indian, Arctic, Atlantic, Antarctic

Ocean Life: fish, plants, marine mammals

Natural Resources: energy, food, water, minerals, metals

Water Movement:
waves, tides, currents

Geography: trenches, ridges, mountains, plains, volcanoes

Page 34

Diet: squid, jellyfish, seaweed

Kinds: Leatherback, Green, Hawksbill

Body Parts: shell, flippers

Things They Do: crawl, nest, migrate, swim

Page 35

1. green
2. nose
3. white
4. cake
5. guitar
6. bird
7. whisper
8. duck
9. mouth
10. wrist

Page 36

1. stripes
2. cube
3. many
4. cow
5. baby
6. field
7. french fries
8. here
9. family
10. ship
11. buy
12. picture
13. pie
14. body
15. crop
16. test

Page 37

1. J
2. F
3. O
4. B
5. L
6. A
7. C
8. K
9. N
10. D
11. G
12. E
13. H
14. I
15. M

Page 38

1. busy
2. bat
3. apple
4. delay
5. downpour
6. adore
7. pumpkin
8. few
9. launch
10. excellent

Page 39

Accept reasonable answers.

1. puppy—acts like a baby
2. 14—eats a lot
3. 21—young adult—confident
4. 28—young adult—healthy
5. 35—young adult—strong
6. 42—middle-age—still likes to play
7. 49—still likes to go for walks
8. 56—middle-age—likes to relax a bit more
9. 63—senior—sweet and not demanding
10. 70—senior—may begin to have health problems

Page 40

Inner core: 795 miles, solid, 12,000 degrees F, solid nickel and iron

Outer core: 2,225 miles, liquid, 7,200 degrees F, melted iron and nickel

Mantle: 1,800 miles, liquid, 5,400 degrees F molten rock

Crust: 34 miles, solid, solid rock

Page 41

Accept any reasonable answers.

Page 42

Answers will vary.

1. Bones: has lots of energy and loves to play
2. Bones: loves people
3. Romeo: wants to be a lap cat
4. April: is declawed
5. Rugby: loves to snooze
6. Austin: loves to be brushed; just recovering from broken leg
7. Bones: seems interested in cats
8. April: full of mischief
9. Answers will vary.

Page 43

1. Unsettled, because the wind speed and direction varies.
2. The temperature will rise, the sky will clear, and the wind will die down.

3. Monday—due to the steady rain.
4. It will not be below 46 degrees F.
5. A storm will probably begin.

Page 44
1. Saturday
2. $.30 per minute
3. 10 p.m. to 8 a.m.
4. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 10 p.m. to 8 a.m.
5. $1.50
6. higher rates
7. lower rates
8. highest rate for the first 30 minutes and regular rate for the last 30 minute—$24.00

Page 45
1. j
2. i
3. c
4. l
5. k
6. e
7. g
8. b
9. a
10. d
11. f
12. h

Page 46
1. kept us in stitches
2. a cut above the rest
3. fit like a glove
4. on pins and needles
5. tore through it
6. barking up the wrong tree
7. give a hoot
8. straight from the horse's mouth
9. hit the ceiling
10. back seat driver
11. by the oceans
12. under your hat
13. pass the buck
14. no bed of roses
15. pain in the neck
16. cracks me up

Page 47
1. Dan Raskin
2. became a neighborhood hero
3. Barrington Street in Higgins, New York
4. Monday night
5. rescued a mother cat
6. using his mountain climbing gear

Page 48
Answers will vary.
Suddenly, the manager saw the coyote sneak from behind a big bush.

Page 49
Answers will vary.

Page 50
Answers will vary.

Page 51
Answers will vary.

Page 52
1. art projects
2. friendship bracelets
3. two
4. Rocket Sculptures
5. 25
6. 25
7. 17
8. they are cakes
9. a rubber stamp and paper
10. newspaper

Page 53
I. Early Life
II. Career
III. Inventor
IV. Collector
Answers will vary.

Page 54
Answers will vary.

Page 55
Some answers will vary.
1. yes
2. yes
3. no
4. yes
5. no

Page 56
Answers will vary.

Page 57
1. not confirmed.
2. confirmed
3. confirmed
4. confirmed
5. not confirmed
6. confirmed

Page 58
Answers will vary.

Page 59
Answers will vary.

Page 60
Answers will vary.

Page 61
Answers will vary.

Page 62
Answers will vary.

Page 63
Answers will vary.

Page 64
Answers will vary.

Page 65
Problem: Trent could not open the car door with his key.
Event or complication: Trent had lots of groceries to manage. He checked his key ring and had the right key.
Solution: He looked through the car window, saw the blue jacket, and realized that he was trying to open someone else's car.

Page 66
1. no
2. no
3. yes
4. yes
5. yes
6. yes
7. unknown
8. yes
9. no
10. no

Page 67
1. b
2. b
3. a
4. c
5. d
6. b

Page 68
1. false
2. false
3. true
4. true
5. false
6. nares
7. toes, foot, thigh, heel
8. throat (vocal sacs)
9. They are used for balance and for hopping.
10. Webbed toes help it to swim better.
11. The skin is moist because the bullfrog lives in and around water.
12. The bullfrog has teeth and a large mouth and jaw.

Page 69
1. C
2. A
3. F
4. D
5. E
6. B
7. A
8. B
9. G
10. A
11. A
12. D

Page 70
1. U.S. Army officers
2. John Muir
3. John Charles Frémont
4. Frémont was a politician.
5. They are all in the U.S.

Page 71
1. Devon and Jules
2. Devon , Mariah, and Brittany
3. Devon, Mariah, Jules and Brittany
4. no class
5. Devon, Mariah, Brittany (any two)
6. Mariah
7. Mariah or Brittany
8. no class
9. Jules
10. second period

Page 72
The following words should be circled:
1. fine-looking
2. I consider, very attractive
3. I feel, I have charming manners
4. I believe
5. In my opinion

6. It is my judgement
7. In my view
8. I think
9. should be
10. Answers will vary.
11. Answers will vary.

Page 73

1. Everyone in the county
2. flashing sign on his head
3. Even a jet couldn't catch up with him.
4. eyes just about popped out of her head
5. to make the leaves fall off the trees
6. several years to get it done
7. died laughing
8. feet as big as a boat
9. I'll never smile again.
10. hamer faster than lightning
11. boiling mad
12. it caused the water in a nearby lake to vaporize

Page 74

1. R
2. I
3. R
4. R
5. I
6. I
7. R
8. I

Page 75

Delete: Free delivery available, Set your watch, Cakes with whipped cream frosting are better, Matinee movie $5.00, Visit a college that looks exciting, Visit us on the world-wide web to place your order, The wild squirrels that live on the roof need to be left alone. We are number one in clean used cars.

Page 76

Paragraph 1
1. yes
2. yes
3. no
4. no
5. yes
6. yes

Paragraph 2
1. yes
2. yes
3. no
4. yes
5. no
6. yes

Paragraph 3
1. yes
2. no
3. yes
4. no
5. yes
6. no

Page 77

1. Starts with storage of water in ocean, lakes, rivers.
2. Sored water evaporates. Changes into water vapor. Rises into atmosphere.
3. Water vapor forms clouds. Clouds release precipitation.
4. Precipitation fills ocenas, rivers, and lakes.

Page 78

1. She went to live with someone called a puppy raiser.
2. Advanced training to become a service dog.
3. Ziggy was ready to become a loyal friend and constant companion.

Page 79

Order: 3, 7, 6, 2, 1, 4, 5
Summaries will vary.

Page 80

Order: 6, 1, 4, 5, 2, 7, 8, 3

Page 81

People have found ways to battle erosion; 3

The Grand Canyon is a magnificent example of erosion; 6

Page 82

Each year countless numbers of old phone books get recycled into new phone books.
1. D
2. D
3. D
4. T
5. D
6. D

Page 83

1. b, c
2. a, c
3. a, b
4. a, c
5. a, b

Page 84

1. yes
2. yes
3. no
4. yes
5. yes
6. no
7. yes
8. no
9. yes
10. no

Page 85

Main idea: My school has an alien bully.

Answers will vary.

Page 86

1959: Alaska became the 49th state.

1977: A huge pipeline was completed to carry oil to Valdez.

1896: Gold was discovered in Alaska.

1964: A powerful earthquake rocked the south-central part of the state.

1968: A huge oil deposit was discovered in the Prudhoe Bay area.

Page 87

1. A, D
2. D, A
3. D, A
4. A, D
5. D, A
6. A, D
7. D, A
8. D, A
9. A, D
10. A, D
11. D, A
12. A, D
13. D, A
14. A, D

Page 88

1. a, d
2. b, c, d
3. a, d
4. a, b, d
5. d

Answers will vary.

Page 89

Answers and their order will vary.

Compare:

They are both sports.

Both sports use a ball.

Both are played by two teams of 11 players.

The object of both games is to move the ball into the opponent's goal.

Contrast:

They use different-shaped balls.

Football players wear padding all over their bodies.

Each game began in a different century.

The players do not carry the ball in their hands during a soccer game.

Page 90

Great Salt Lake: Utah, 2,300 square miles, brine shrimp, birds, the Bear, the Weber, and Jordan Rivers, saltwater

Lake Okeechobee: southern Florida, 663 square miles, large-mouth bass, fish, deer, turkeys, wild boars, and ducks, Kissimme River, freshwater

Page 91

Stomach	Heart	Lungs
yes	yes	yes
yes	no	no
no	yes	no
no	no	yes
no	yes	yes
yes	no	no
yes	no	no
no	no	yes
yes	yes	yes
no	yes	no
yes	no	no
no	yes	no

Your stomach is located in the abdomen and it digests food.

You have two lungs in your chest cavity. They move air in and out of your body to help you breathe.

Page 92

Compare:

They are members of the same family.

Tad and Brent are cousins.

They are both fourth graders.

Contrast:

Brent is a math whiz.

Tad works hard in math class, but Brent does not need to do so.

Brent can truly brag about his math skills, but Tad cannot.

Page 93

4—you feel less angry

7—makes other people feel happy too

6—gives them a good workout

5—will take away stress

3—may not get ill as often

2—works your abdominal muscles

1—strengthens it

Page 94

1. he went to investigate.
2. he called 911.
3. classes were not disturbed and no one was injured.
4. he was arrested and charged with trespassing.

Page 95

1. that exposed the soil.
2. it did not hold the soil together well.
3. Because of a long draught
4. Because storm winds blew
5. families were forced to pack up and leave.

Page 96

1. studying—when they discovered hydrothermal or hot-water vents
2. cracks— consequently the vent begins to form
3. hot—then it is super-heated
4. rises—as a result, hot murky water shoots upward from the ocean floor
5. so scientists were extremely surprised to see this

Page 97

1. shop
2. Tessa
3. Darren, Renaldo, snacks
4. Darren
5. Renaldo
6. the gift shop
7. Darren, game arcades
8. zoo
9. the water rides
10. the cost to get in

Page 98

1. true
2. unknown
3. true
4. true
5. unknown
6. false
7. true
8. true
9. false
10. unknown
11. true
12. unknown

Page 99

1. tic-tac-toe
2. windy
3. the bank
4. traffic accident
5. movie theater
6. soccer
7. garbage collection
8. falling star
9. dentist's office

Page 100

1. yes
2. no
3. yes
4. yes
5. no
6. yes
7. yes
8. no
9. no
10. no
11. no
12. yes
13. yes
14. yes
15. yes

Page 101

1. 203
2. 127
3. 324
4. 583
5. 139
6. 256
7. 398
8. 262
9. 271
10. 158

Page 102

1. a cat—catnip toy or fish-shaped food bowl
2. male—he
3. scared—heart pounding
4. closet—doorway
5. sleeping—yawning and stretching

Page 103

1. yes
2. yes
3. no
4. yes
5. no
6. no
7. yes
8. yes
9. yes
10. yes

Page 104

1. Nettie's brightest idea turned into a huge mistake.
2. When she looked into the mirror she screamed so loud that her mom came running!
3. Hopefully
4. "However, I think I'll be the one to break this to your dad."

Page 105

Answers will vary.

Page 106

Answers will vary.

Page 107

1. The author uses the word "I."
2. The author calls the book—precious, an heirloom, dear book, beautiful little novel.
3. Answers will vary.
4. Answers will vary.

Page 108

1. the narrator
2. a factual account
3. spring
4. Answers will vary.

Page 109

1. character/wolf
2. sorry for wolves
3. keep wolves in captivity
4. Answers will vary.
5. Answers will vary.

Page 110

1. D. Hopkins
2. H. Petty
3. A. Foster

Answers will vary.

Page 111

1. He saw smoke nearby.
2. Winds cause a fire to build up and speed up.
3. Answers will vary.
4. They contained the fire and kept it from spreading.
5. Answers will vary.

Page 112

1. Answers will vary.
2. Answers will vary.
3. Answers will vary.

Page 113

1. Question and answer will vary.
2. Question and answer will vary.
3. Question and answer will vary.

Page 114

How she feels about her life: She enjoys a happy life in Moscow.

A fact about her parents: They met while her father was in Russia on business.

What her father thinks about her: He says she is quite bright and can go to the university if she studies hard.

Her goals: To be a scientist and to master playing the violin.

Things she likes: Helping her mother shop for fruits and vegetables at the open-air markets, and making beautiful music on the violin.

A quote that tells about her personality: "The violin is a challenging instrument, but I am determined to master it someday."

Page 115

Answers will vary.

Page 116

1. cemetery
2. walk-in refrigerator
3. coral reef
4. backyard
5. ice rink

Page 117

1. f
2. c
3. a
4. b
5. e
6. d
7. g
8. h

Page 118

Setting: Chris's classroom-doubled as a science room full of tanks, cages of animals and odd odors.

Mom's office-organized and calm, everyone worked quietly on their computers

Problem that Chris faced: Chris's classroom-hard to concentrate

Mom's office-needed something to do besides sit

Other characters: Chris's classroom-teacher

Mom's office-Mom, office staff

Page 119

Answers will vary.

1. The dog would not eat or play with her favorite tug toy.
2. It was time to see the vet.
3. Something was wrong inside of the dog's mouth.
4. The vet removed several loose teeth.

Page 120

Introduction: Pandora was given the box as a gift.

Building action: She was often drawn to the box.

High point: A cloud of cruel spirits flew from the open box.

Resolution: Hope was the only good spirit that came from the box.

Page 121

Answers will vary.

Page 122

Dorothy	–	+	+	–	–	–
Toto	+	–	–	+	–	–
Cowardly Lion	+	–	–	–	+	–
Scarecrow	+	–	–	–	+	+
Tin Man	+	–	–	–	+	+
The Wizard	+	–	–	–	+	–
Glinda the Good Witch	–	+	–	–	+	–
Wicked Witch of the West	–	+	–	–	+	–
Auntie Em	–	+	+	–	–	–
Uncle Henry	+	–	+	–	–	–

Answers will vary.

Page 123

Answers will vary.

Page 124

1. humorous

2.–4. Answers will vary.

Page 125

Describe features of the mongoose:

Short legs, long tail, small ears.

List three facts about the mongoose:

1. runs on the ground and backwards
2. climbs walls and trees
3. skillful hunter

Page 126

1. France
2. 1803
3. It was growing and needed more territory.
4. 800,000 square miles
5. 15 million dollars
6. Fifteen states were formed from this land.
7. Louisiana Purchase
8. This was the largest area ever added to the U.S. at one time.

Page 127

1. yes
2. yes
3. yes
4. no
5. yes
6. no
7. no
8. yes
9. yes
10. no
11. no
12. no
13. no
14. yes
15. yes

Page 128

1. b
2. a
3. a
4. a

Page 129

Event 1: They were sitting around the campfire.

Event 2: A flash of white fur with antlers tore out of the bushes.

Event 3: The narrator froze in terror.

Event 4: The hare grabbed their food and took off into the woods.

Event 5: The narrator ran to the ranger station for help.

Event 6: The rangers roared with laughter.

Event 7: The rangers went back to their card game.

Page 130

Answers will vary.

Page 131

Name: Anita Hanson

Appearance: long, red hair and blue eyes

Parents: mom

Grade: fourth

Biggest problem: keeping her sister out of her room

Favorite chore: bringing in the mail

Likes to: dance and write in her diary

Siblings: two brothers and one baby sister

Page 132

Name: Adam Gary

Age: nine years

Favorite game: chess

What he did: started a chess club

Why he did it: to have a lot of people to play the game with him

What others say or think about him: well-liked and the best player around

Page 133

Answers will vary.

Page 134

Check to see that the information is correctly placed on the timeline.

Page 135

Who: Miss Peters

What: retired woman

Where: a garden

The problems:

A wolf spider is nesting in one of her boots.

The spider refuses to find another home.

Problem building up:

She digs the spider a hole to encourage it to move.

Problem comes to a head:

She hides and waits until the spider moves.

She sees that the spider moved into the hole she dug.

Problem resolved:

Miss Peters steals back her boot.

Page 136

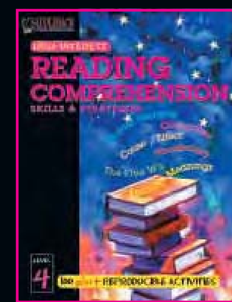
Answers will vary.

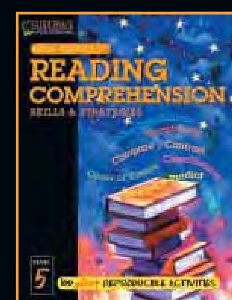
reading comprehension

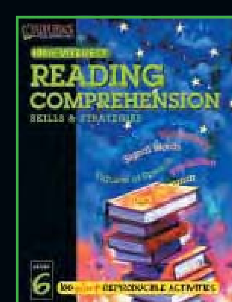
FOR LEVELS 1 THRU 6

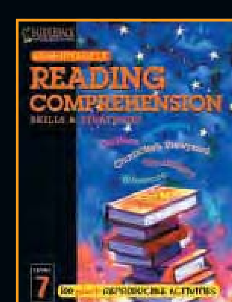
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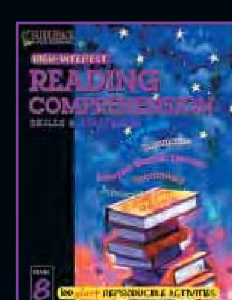












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